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QUARTERLY REVIEW.

PROSPECTUSES from

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PROSPECTS of PEDIGREE STOCK

RECENT EXPORTS OF PEDIGREE RECENT EXPORTS OF PEDIGREE STOCK.—Messrs. John Thornton and Co. report the following recent shipments of pure-bred livestock: Argentine—nine thoroughbred mares on behalf of Major Owen Crott. Ceylon—Large White boar. Italy—Large White sow. Kenya Colony—dairy shorthorn bull. Portugal—Ryeland ram and two ewes; Large White boar and gilt. Saraneak—Ayrshire bull and two Anglo-Nubian goats. West Indices—Sussex bull, two Southdown rams, and pens of golden and silver pheasants.

two Southdown rams, and pens of golden and silver pheasants.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF COW-HOUSES.—The Ministry of Agriculture has recently re-issued as Bulletin 40 its publication dealing with cowshed construction. Obtainable from any bookseller or H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net, this booklet gives many valuable ideas on the general principles involved in the construction and adaptation of cow-houses. The importance of this topic has become more pronounced since the passing of the Milk and Dairies Order, which authorises local authorities to safeguard the purity of the milk supply, for which purpose cowshed reconstruction is frequently essential. The number of designs utilised in cowsheds are so numerous that it is obviously impossible in one small bulletin to cover the merits of all, but one feels in the present instance that the booklet would have been more valuable had a greater range of designs been given. Up to a point the clean milk

Association during the twelve months ended December 31st, 1931. This is easily a record for any one year since the Association was established some fifty years ago. The comparative figures for recent years are: 1930, 312; 1929, 345; 1928, 308. Russia has been the most extensive buyer, her purchases including upwards of 150 Large White and some lifty Berkshire pigs. Lithuania, Rumania and Yugo-Slavia have also bought extensively. The continued embargo on the admittance of livestock from this country into New Zealand and, for a greater part of the year, Canada also, has somewhat restricted Empire markets for pedigree stock; but this notwithstanding, Australia, South Africa and even India, not to mention many of the smaller Dominions, have turned to this country to Improve their herds with first-class boars and sows. Large White pigs have been principally in demand, the number of head consigned being 365. Next in order come the Middle White breed with 135, Berkshires 60, Tamworths 17, and Wessex Saddlebacks 12. During the past month shipments have included a Middle White boar to Japan, two Large Whites to Portugal and three to South Africa.

SALE OF BRITISH FRESIAN CATTLE AT READING,—Probably

SALE OF BRITISH FRIESIAN CATTLE AT READING.—Probably the first sale of pure-bred livestock to be held in the New Year took place at the Cattle Market, Reading, on Wednesday, the 6th instant. when Messrs. John Thornton



"FLEXTELLA" ALL BRITISH CHAIN LINK "FLEYTELLA" ALL BRITISH CHAIN LINE FENCING is exceptionally strong with phenomenal resistance to pressure. It is easily erected and neither sags nor stretches. There are no jagged ends to injure animals. It is galvanised by the Whitecross Company's "SILFLEX" process of hot galvanising. The protective coating of Spelter is so elastic that it will not flake or psel, and this protects the wire against rust under the most adverse conditions.

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SIR GOMER BERRY'S BASILDON ROSICRUCIA One of the most important shorthorn transactions of late years is the sale, for £2,000, of this bull, which was the 1930 Royal Champion, to go to Australia.

cult is admirable. When it attempts to secure cleanliness by restricting the movement of cows, as so often happens in the modern cowshed, then one feels that some consideration ought to be given to the comfort of the herd, even if it implies that the cows may get dirtier in consequence.

FRIESIANS FOR BEEF.—A British Friesian twenty-three months old steer exhibited at the recent Smithield Fat Stock Show, where he returned the creditable daily average gain of 2.19lb, in weight, delighted the butcher who purchased it. This was Mr. N. A. Barrett of Upper Edmonton, who says he is delighted with the first British Friesian he has secured for beefing purposes. The steer scaled 14 fewt. alive, and 122 fst. dead weight. Several butchers who viewed the bullock were all agreed that they never saw one so full of meat. Three butchers obtained some flank for salting, and reported that it cooked and ate to perfection. There was no excess of loose fat. The fat was thick, good and without waste. This steer was exhibited by Mr. J. T. Thistleton Smith of Fakenham, Norfolk, and was bred by him from a cow that was sired by a bull bred from a 2,000 gallon dam.

RECORD EXPORTS OF BRITISH

RECORD EXPORTS OF BRITISH PEDIGREE PIGS IN 1931.—Eight hundred and nine pedigree pigs were exported by members of the National Pig Breeders'

and Co. disposed of forty-one head of purebred British Friesian cattle from the herds of well-known breeders. The average worked out at £33 17s. 4d. apiece, totalling £1,388 12s. 6d., and the best figure of the day was 66 guineas, given by Mr. W. P. Howells from Glamorgan for Mr. H. K. Keeling's Denchworth Christmas, a newly calved five year old with a grand udder; she was yielding 75ilb. of milk daily. Conduit Bonnie Mirabelle, another attractive sort, born December, 1928, also in full profit, cost 60 guineas to Mr. E. R. Bligh from Kent, who also paid 46 guineas for Mr. F. Chandler's Pepsal Molly, a January calver, that yielded over 1,111 gallons of milk with her last calf. Another from the same herd, Someries Vie Sunflower, a freshly calved heifer, whose pedigree is tull of the noted Terling blood, realised a similar price to Mr. W. J. Fryer's representative. A selection from the Manningford Estate's herd in Wiltshire were also sold, and these made up to 48 guineas for the 1,218 galloner Parkfields Graceful, whose dam was the 2,166 gallon cow Ickenhum Charity; the buyer was Mr. S. de Blank. Bulls sold up to 45 guineas for the bid of Captain W. G. Carr for the pure imported yearling Crawford Aristocrat, from Mrs. P. Tory's herd in Dorset. A number of non-pedigree Guernseys were also offered and changed hands at prices ranging from 20 guineas to 33 guineas, the twenty-one head averaging £30 14s.





UNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

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(Knight, Frank and Rutley's advertisements continued on page iii.)

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baths.
Company's water, electric
light, central heating.
Model dairy. Garages.
Lodge. Cottage.
Beautiful and inexpensive grounds are a
special feature; south
terrace, tennis lawn, pergolas, flowering shrubberies,
walled kitchen garden,
orchard, woodland and
nasture.

AMPLE COTTAGES.

TIMBERED GROUNDS.

FIRST-RATE FARMS, "WELL LET." Full particulars from the Sole Agents, Hampton & Sons, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

NORTH HAMPSHIRE

DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY HOUSE OF QUEEN ANNE CHARACTER,
HIGH UP ON A DRY SOIL, FACING SOUTH. Contains: Large square hall, drawing room, dining room, billiards room, morn-ing room, etc., very good offices, ten bedrooms, three baths.



ABOUT 35 ACRES.

A FIRST-CLASS PROPERTY AVAILABLE ON VERY ATTRACTIVE TERMS.

Hampton & Sons, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (H 42,403.)

DERBY AND STAFFS BORDERS

THE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL ESTATE KNOWN AS DRAKELOWE, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Extending 975 ACRES. THIS ANCIENT MANSION

stands on the wooded banks of the River Trent. overlooking a grand old DEER PARK. The House contains spacious hall, fine suite of seven reception rooms, 25 bed and dressing rooms, seven bathrooms, complete offices.

offices.
EXTENSIVE STABLING.
GARAGES.
AMPLE COTTAGES.



DELIGHTFUL OLD ENGLISH GARDENS with clipped yew hedges, old turf walks, etc., terraced lawns to the river.

With Chipped Yew needes, out this wars, etc., terrace lawns to the liver.

The remainder of the estate consists of two farms, small holdings, woodlands, plantations, valuable accommodation and building lands, etc. For SALE by Private Treaty.—
Joint Sole Agents, Messrs, John German & Son, Burton-on-Trent, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
and Derby, and Hampton & Sons, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. I.

SOUTH DEVON

£2,250 FOR CHARMING OLD HOUSE AND 45 ACRES.

In a very fine sporting district near Tavistock, about twelve miles from Plymouth.

Modernised old stone-built RESIDENCE,

standing in delightful spot immune from noise.

Entrance hall, dining and drawing rooms, usual offices, dairy, seven bedrooms, bathroom.

Central heating, telephone, water from spring. Farmbuildings



GARDEN, WOOD AND MEADOWLAND; 45 ACRES. QUARTER-MILE OF FISHING.

Hampton & Sons, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (c 41,286a.)

ONE OF THE PRETTIEST SMALL HOUSES IN

SUSSEX

LOVELY POSITION ON THE SOUTHERN SLOPES OF THE CROWBOROUGH HILLS, WITH DUE SOUTH ASPECT.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD,

TYPICAL XVTH CENTURY RESIDENCE.

Secluded yet not isolated.

Full of old oak and interesting period features.

TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, SIX BEDROOMS (including cottage), FITTED BATHROOM AND USUAL OFFICES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. WATER BY GRAVITATION.

SEVEN ACRES

narming and matured grounds, perfectly laid-out and ding orchards, woodland and meadowland, a feature being a stream of 400yds. in length, and

A SMALL LAKE.

LARGE GARAGE AND UNIQUE BARN.
Agents, Hampton & Sons, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1. (c 44,699.)



BERKSHIRE HILLS Beautifully placed FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL, SPORTING AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

high ground with some Occupying a glorious po

600 OR UP TO 1,000 ACRES,



providing exceptional phea-sant shooting with high birds and capital partridge grounds. Also about one-and-a-half miles of excel-lent TROUT FISHING. Finely equipped MODERN RESIDENCE, in almost faultless order; lounge hall, four reception rooms, billiard room, 20 bed and dressing rooms, four bath-rooms. Oak panellings and oak floors, etc. Every modern convenience.

DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS with grass and hard tennis courts, walled ben garden, etc. Good home farm with ample cottages.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.

ngly recommended by the SOLE AGENTS, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

FOR SALE AT MUCH BELOW VALUE. OWNER HAVING PURCHASED A PROPERTY ELSEWHERE

BETWEEN FARNHAM AND ALTON

IN AN UNSPOILT POSITION WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.

A delightful COUNTRY HOME

COUNTRY HOME, with 175 acres of grazing and woodlands, farm home-stead, cottages, etc., also about one mile of trout fishing. The HOUSE, of Georgian character, is most comfortably equipped and contains three reception and billiard rooms, seventeen bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms and compact offices.

Electric light



Attractively disposed old gardens, small park and drive with lodge

VALUABLE HOME FARM. BAILIFF'S HOUSE. FOUR EXCELLENT COTTAGES. WOODLANDS OF ABOUT 30 ACRES.
VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE.
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Offices: 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1

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Telegraphic Address:

"ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.I

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY

LAND FOR INVESTMENT

A FEW REASONS WHY :-

SECURITY FOR CAPITAL ASSURED.

AGRICULTURE MUST ALWAYS REMAIN A PREDOMINANT INDUSTRY.

FULL OF POSSIBILITIES FOR APPRECIATION IN VALUE.

EXCHANGE FLUCTUATIONS CAN BE DISREGARDED.

TERRA FIRMA CANNOT EVAPORATE—AS DO STOCKS AND SHARES.

YOUR LAND IS ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU TO SEE.

MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER WILL BE PLEASED TO FORWARD TO INTERESTED INVESTORS A LIST OF ESTATES AVAILABLE AT PRICES TO SHOW A GOOD RETURN.

YORKSHIRE. £27,000
Easy drive of a first-class town. COMFORTABLE SMALL HOUSE

1,000 ACRES

divided into several farms, smallholdings, etc. The rentals amounting to about

£1,440 PER ANNUM

irrespective of the rent reserved for the shooting.

There are, in addition, about 50 ACRES OF WOODLANDS.

Further information may be obtained from the Agents, Messrs, OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,364.)

BIG INCOME. LOW OUTGOINGS.

NORFOLK Near good market town in a

£10 AN ACRE

AN OLD-FASHIONED HOUSE of twelve bedrooms with modern conveniences, approached by a winding carriage drive with lodge at entrance.

FIVE PRINCIPAL FARMS.

over 50 COTTAGES, public house, etc.

2,000 ACRES

lying in a ring fence intersected by good roads.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER.

(15,788.)

£7,000.

200 ACRES

RENTAL from FARM and SPORTING,

£250 PER ANNUM

HERTS BORDERS. In a good re dential and sporting district, just over hour's raif from London.

THE RESIDENCE, of pleasing elevation, is in excellent order, has electric light and telephone, and contains three reception, eleven bedrooms, three bathrooms. It occupies a secluded position in matured gardens, with a line collection of flowering trees

and shrubs.

FARMHOUSE. EXTENSIVE BUILDINGS
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER.

BUCKS

Beautiful part of the Chilterns: 50 MINUTES FROM LONDON.
TO BE SOLD a

FASCINATING OLD HOUSE

FASCINATING OLD HOUSE
set in the most delightful of terraced grounds with rose and
water gardens, hard and grass tennis courts, with enclosed
pavilion, etc.

Internally there are many delightful features of
the period, including valuable old oak panelling,
stone Tudor fireplaces, etc., but modern comforts
have been skilfully introduced, including:
ELECTRIC LIGHT. RADIATORS. TELEPHONE.
Lounge hall, three reception (one 30ft. by 20ft.),
seven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms.
NEAR GOLE. GOOD HUNTING.

NEAR GOLF GOOD HUNTING.

£4,750 WITH THREE ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,736.)



NEAR PETERSFIELD

'Midst glori after district. TO BE SOLD this delightful and

WELL - APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE Standing on light soil some 350ft. up with far-reaching views.

Entrance and lounge halls, three reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms. COMPANY'S WATER. TELEPHONE. accommodation, capital cottage.

MATURED GARDENS shaded by many fine old trees, two paddocks, etc.; nearly

TEN ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,727.)



OXFORDSHIRE

In the CENTRE of the HEYTHROP HUNT.

CHARMING OLD

COTSWOLD MANOR HOUSE

delightfully placed in park-like surroundings and recently repainted and decorated.

Three reception rooms, eight bed and dressing rooms, several bathrooms, five attic bedrooms, etc.

ECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. Every accommodation necessary for a pedigree herd is provided in the fine

RANGE OF MODEL BUILDINGS.
BAILIFF'S HOUSE. SIX COTTAGES.

The land is nearly all pasture, on a subsoil of brash-rock, and extends to over

400 ACRES. PRICE £8,500

(or the House and seventeen acres would be Sold).

Agents, Messrs, OSBORN & MERCER. (15,764.)

KENT AND SURREY

MODERN HOUSE

ath, with delightful views, and containing three rooms, seven bed and dressing rooms, two bath-

as, etc.
ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.
Very pretty gardens in which is a beautiful

Very pretty gardens in which is a beautiful LAKE OF NEARLY FIVE ACRES.

Picturesque old Mill House, with four bedrooms and a bungalow, all with electric light and central heating. Garages and outbuildings; sound pasture, orchard and woodland.

30 ACRES
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,795.)

A Property of Great Charm is Privately for Sale in

WEST SUSSEX

with a very delightful Georgian HOUSE standing in the centre of heavily timbered parklands facing south, with beautiful views of the Downs. There are three reception rooms, nine bedrooms and two bathrooms, and the whole is in perfect order and possesses every conceivable modern comfort.

comfort.

Large garage, ample stabling, two cottages and some excellent farmbuildings; the remainder being

Parklands of 50 ACRES

Sole Agents, Messrs, OSBORN & MERCER, (15,735.)

HAMPSHIRE

ADJOINING A COMMON AND CONVENIENT FOR YACHTING.

TO BE SOLD, this delightful

GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE, in excellent order and having all modern comforts. Electric light. Central heating, Company's water and telephone.

It stands in matured and tastefully laid out grounds, and contains hall, three reception rooms, nine principal bedrooms, three bathrooms and five servants' bedrooms, servants' hall, etc.

GARAGE. STABLING. TWO COTTAGES

£5,000 WITH TEN ACRES
Agents, Messis, OSBORN & MERCER. (15,445.)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS (ESTABLISHED 1778). (ESTABLISHED 1778).

Grosvenor 1553 (3 lines).

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W. I

"MILL HOUSE," HOLMWOOD COMMON, SURREY

ON THE HILLS NEAR DORKING.
WITH LOVELY VIEWS. FINELY APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE.

Fifteen bed (nearly all with h. and c. water), five bathrooms, fine suite of reception ns, oak-panelled hall (large enough for billiards).

FOOMS, OAK-PARICHED HART (LARGE CHOUGH FOF THE HEATING, MAIN WATER, GAS AND DRAINAGE, TELEPHONE.

TWO GARAGES.

TWO COTTAGES (MORE IF DESIRED).

WONDERFUL GROUNDS AFFORDING COMPLETE SECLUSION.

SIX ACRES.

FREEHOLD.

FOR SALE, PRIVATELY, OR BY AUCTION IN THE EARLY SPRING.

Illustrated particulars of George Trollope & Sons, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. NOTE.—The high-class FURNITURE AND CONTENTS will be SOLD on the premises at a date to be announced later.

WITHIN DAILY REACH BUCKS.

#

STATION TEN MINUTES; LONDON HALF AN HOUR: FIVE VIEWS OVER GOLF COURSE.



THIS ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT HOUSE Standing back from road, approached by drive.

LOUNGE (30ft. 9in. by 13ft. 4in.), TWO RECEPTION, SIX BED, TWO BATHROOMS.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, WATER AND GAS.
GARAGE.

OF DELIGHTFUL TIMBERED GARDEN. HALF - ACRE

REASONABLE PRICE, FREEHOLD. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (c 6362.)

HINDHEAD

PRACTICALLY NO EXPENDITURE BEFORE ENTRY.



PICTURESQUE FREEHOLD HOUSE.
Recently redecorated throughout; carriage drive.
FIVE BED, TWO BATH, FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS.
ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER, CO.'S WATER.
TWO GARAGES.
INEXPENSIVE GARDENS OF TWO ACRES.

£3,750, INCLUDING FURNITURE. OR WOULD BE SOLD SEPARATELY.
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (c 1351.)

Telegrams: "Teamwork, Piccy, London." NORFOLK
Telephone: Mayfair 6363
(4 lines)

& PRIOR

14, HAY HILL, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W. 1

Land and Estate Agents, Auctioneers, Valuers, Rating and General Surveyors.

BETWEEN CANTERBURY AND THE COAST

A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF TUDOR ARCHITECTURE



Completely modernised and in a fine state of preservation. It contains three reception rooms, six bedrooms with lavatory basin (h. and c.), three bathrooms, modern domestic offices.

Central heating, con-stant hot water, electric light: garage, barn and outbuildings.

Inexpensive old-world grounds with tennis lawn, orchard and two paddocks;

11 ACRES

FOR SALE AT A MODERATE PRICE. Agents, Norfolk & Prior, 14, Hay Hill, Berkeley Square, W. 1.

SURREY AND SUSSEX BORDERS

A DELIGHTFUL TUDOR RESIDENCE.

Electric light, central heating, independent hot water, never-failing water supply, modern drainage; garage.

DELIGHTFUL

GARDENS.

herbaceous borders, rose garden, tennis lawn, orchard, etc.; in all about

3 ACRES. FOR SALE AT A REDUCED PRICE. Agents, Norfolk & Prior, 14, Hay Hill, Berkeley Square, W. 1.

ESTATE OFFICES. RUGBY RUGBY. 18, BENNETT'S HILL BIRMINGHAM.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM.

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE. LONDON, S.W.1. 140, HIGH ST., OXFORD. AND CHIPPING NORTON.



CHESHIRE (few miles from Chester and under thour from either Liverpool and Manchester).—24,5 Freehold. This lovely old COUNTRY RESIDENCE the Georgian period, in almost perfect order and well awfrom main roads. Lounge hall and three sitting room eight bedrooms, three bathroom electric light, central heating, telephone; well-timber grounds, with hard tennis court and stream, meador grounds, with hard tennis court and stream, meador grounds. dight, central nearing, with hard tennis court and stream, a about SEVEN ACRES. SURREY AND SUSSEX BORDERS

ONE HOUR FROM LONDON.

OMFORTABLE OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE, part Tudor, with a later addition. Pleasant rural situation, enjoying unspoiled views over well-wooded country. Lounge hall, three reception rooms (one 24ft. by 14ft.), six bedrooms, bath, etc.; electric light, central heating, main water and gas; garage, stabling, and useful outbuildings. Grounds, delightful woodland walk, tennis lawn, meadow; in all about SIXTEEN ACRES.

Inspected by James Styles & Whitlock, 44, St. ames's Place, S.W. 1. (lr 11,773.)

HERTFORDSHIRE

In a high rural situation, near 'bus service to station, with frequent electric train service.

£2.050 — Quaint COTTAGE RESIDENCE and grounds: two sitting rooms, four bedrooms, bath, etc. All rooms are of good size. Gas and water laid on; garage; tennis lawn, rose garden, orchard, etc.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W. 1. (LR 11,959.)

WILTSHIRE

BETWEEN SALISBURY PLAIN AND CHIPPENHAM. AMIDST BEAUTIFUL UNDULATING COUNTRY.

LOVELY OLD HOUSE,

carefully modernised, and now in almost perfect order; 450ft. above sea level. South aspect, commanding panoramic views. Away from all traffic.

CENTRAL HALL. FOUR SITTING ROOMS. THREE BATHROOMS,

Electric light and central heating, independent hot water. Cottage, double garage, and other outbuildings.

BEAUTIFUL OLD GARDEN, PADDOCK, etc., of TEN ACRES.

Fishing, good shooting and golf readily obtainable.

MODERATE PRICE.

Inspected and recommended by James Styles and Whitlock, 44, St. James's Place, S.W. 1. (LR 11,271.)

Telephone: Grosvenor 1400 (2 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON

Telegrams: " Submit, London."

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS. PICTURESQUELY WOODED SMALL ESTATE

DOWNASH," FLIMWELL.

ONE HOUR EXPRESS RAIL. TUDOR STYLE HOUSE,

well situated

IN EXCELLENT ORDER AND LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED WITH ALL MODERN AMENITIES. FACING DUE SOUTH.

Avenue drive with lodge.

Hall, three reception, eleven bed and dressing, SIX BATHROOMS, butler's and chauffeur's bedrooms, model offices.



COMPANY'S WATER, ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN DRAINAGE GARAGE, STABLING AND FOUR COTTAGES.

USEFUL WELL-FOUND BUILDINGS. TERRACED GARDENS OF GREAT BEAUTY,

yet inexpensively maintained.

Tennis and croquet lawns, rose garden, herbaceous garden, walled kitchen and fruit garden, orchard, small lake and hillside wood.

Attractive park-like pasture,

IN ALL ABOUT

87 ACRES, FREEHOLD.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the London Auction Mart, on JANUARY 26th NEXT (unless previously Sold Privately). Solicitors, Messrs, Brennan & Brennan, 86, Week Street, Maidston

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EXCELLENT CENTRE FOR HUNTING WITH THE GARTH

FIVE MINUTES FROM STATION.

300FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL. BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.

OLD RED-BRICK HOUSE, entirely modernised and fitted with every convenience. Entirely redecorated and now in perfect order. Carriage drive with lodge: three reception, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms. Electric light, central heating, Co.'s water, main drainage, telephone: stabling, men's rooms, two garages, cottage. MATURED PLEASURE GROUNDS, full-sized tennis court, well-timbered gardens, kitchen garden and small amount of glass, two grass paddocks; in all about five acres. PRICE JUST REDUCED. First-class golf.—CURTIS and HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

SURREY HILLS

Adjacent to picturesque old village; 45 minutes' rail from City and West End.

FINE OLD JACOBEAN HOUSE, built of narrow red bricks, stone-mullioned and transomed windows FINE OLD JACOBEAN HOUSE, built of narrow red bricks, stone-mullioned and transomed windows, old oak panelling and carved plasterwork; approached by two drives; well placed in beautifully timbered park. Five reception, 20 bedrooms, five bathrooms; electric light, central heating, telephone, Co.'s water; stabling and garages, home farm (if required), cottages; delightful old gardens, well-grown forest and ornamental trees, wide-spreading lawns sloping to lake and stream, tennis courts, sunken garden and yew trees, topiary work, kitchen gardens and glasshouses, old red-brick walls and parkland. FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 50 ACRES AT VERY LOW PRICE. (More land up to several hundred acres if required.) First-class golf and hunting. Recommended personally.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

BEAUTIFUL QUANTOCK HILLS

Situated in the heart of the staghunting country; easy a of Exmoor.

OLD QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE, occupying a fine position 400ft, above sea level, at the entrance to a famous Coombe; magnificent views of the Bristol Channel and Welsh coast; finely timbered deer park; long drive; four reception, twelve bedrooms, two bathrooms; lighting, leating, telephone, excellent water supply; stabling and garage; pleasure grounds, tennis lawn, flower gardens, large walled kitchen garden, park and pastureland intersected for nearly one mile by trout stream; rough shooting; in all about 170 ACRES. MODERATE PRICE ASKED. Hunting, golf and polo. Easy reach of the sea and good market towns.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

FIVE MILES FROM BASINGSTOKE

600FT, UP. CENTRE OF VINE HUNT.

EXPRESS RAIL, ONE HOUR.

CHARMING OLD PERIOD MANOR HOUSE, partly Tudor but mainly Queen Anne. Modernised throughout. Many period interior characteristics. Very secluded position away from noise and dust; stands on a private Estate of over 300 acres; three reception, twelve bedrooms, three bathrooms; Co.'s electric light, central heating, private water supply, telephone; garage for five cars, stabling, extensive outbuildings, two cottages; walled kitchen garden, flower garden and two tennis courts, orchards and pastureland. FOR SALE WITH ABOUT ELEVEN ACRES AT EXTREMELY MODERATE PRICE. (More land if required.) Easy reach of good golf, fishing, etc.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

ADJACENT TO THE NEW WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE

And within easy access of Sunningdale and Swinley Forest, and close to Windsor Great Park.

and close to Windsor Great Park.

CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE which has been the subject of a huge expenditure during the last few years; seeluded position, amidst parklands, standing high up with beautiful views to the south. Four reception, eighteen bedrooms, eight bathrooms; Co.'s electric light, water and gas, central heating, telephone; extensive stabling and garages, with range of men's rooms and bathrooms, cottage and farmery; beautifully timbered pleasure grounds, lawns, tennis and croquet, rose gardens, orangery, rockery, hard court, very fine walled kitchen garden of nearly two acress, glasshouses, large orchard and parklike grassland; in all OVER 40 ACRES (or less if desired). FOR SALE, OR WOULD LET, FURNISHED. Very highly recommended.—Owner's Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

NEW FOREST

Beautiful position; 300ft, above sea level; pan

WERY SUCCESSFUL MODERN EXAMPLE
OF THE TUDOR PERIOD, constructed with old
materials at a great expense. Three reception, nine bedrooms, four bathrooms. The Residence lends itself
admirably towards enlargement, and by adding a small
wing could easily provide for a further three or four bedrooms; small home farm with roomy cottage and outbuildings for small pedigree herd; excellent water supply
and drainage. Company's electric light mains are in the
district and will shortly come near the property; telephone
and modern drainage; attractive gardens, woodland and
pasture; in all over 30 ACRES. FRESH IN THE
MARKET. Excelent golf and hunting.—Curtis and
Hennon, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

ADJACENT TO THREE SUSSEX FORESTS

and extensive areas of commonland. Beautiful position.

Long drive; sand and gravel soil. Easy reach of main line station.

line station.

WELL-PLANNED COUNTRY RESIDENCE, constructed of brick and hanging tiles; all modern conveniences; four reception, nine principal bedrooms, three bathrooms; electric light, central heating, Co.'s water and gas, modern drainage, telephone, independent hot water; garage for three cars, stabling, chauffcur's rooms, small farmery, cottage. The pleasure grounds are a special feature, beautifully timbered, large variety of crest trees, lawns, two tennis courts, rose gardens, kitchen garden and orchard, ornamental ponds, grass meadows; in all ABOUT FOURTEEN ACRES. PRICE REDUCED TO 44,500. SPLENDID GOLF FACILITIES.—CURTIS and HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD HERTFORDSHIRE

On the outskirts of famous small Town of historic interest; five minutes from station.

free minutes from station.

TYPICAL GEORGIAN HOUSE (dated 1735)
of great distinction and charm, having every convenience and recently the subject of a very heavy expenditure. THREE RECEPTION, TWELVE BED-ROOMS, BILLLARD ROOM, sun lounge, tiled verandah, three bathrooms, period fitments: ample stabling, garage for three or four cars, bungalow, aviary: Company's electric light, water and gas, main drainage, telephone: old-world gardens, with matured trees and yew hedges, large kitchen garden, summer-house, magnificent ancient copper beech trees, glasshouses, lawns, old stone garden and ornamental water. ONLY JUST IN THE MARKET, REASOLABLE PRICE. Easy reach of good golf and hunting.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

ONLY 25 MILES OUT

Two miles from main line station. Ideal for City man.

CHARMING OLD RED-BRICK PERIOD HOUSE, recently enlarged and modernised through-CHARMING GLD RED—BRICK PERIOD ON THE OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL

FOR IMMEDIATE SALE. PERFECTLY APPOINTED PROPERTY. NEAR GOOD GOLF. SUITABLE FOR CITY MAN.

SURREY, 20 MILES FROM LONDON, AMIDST RURAL SURROUNDINGS

EXCEPTIONALLY FINE

MODERN HOUSE

On high ground and light soil, perfectly secluded, facing south, and approached by drive.

HALL,

FIVE RECEPTION.

WINTER GARDEN,

FIFTEEN BEDROOMS,

FIVE BATHROOMS. COMPLETE OFFICES.

CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT.5 CENTRAL HEATING. CO.'S WATER, CO.'S GAS. MAIN DRAINAGE, TELEPHONE.

Well-timbered garden, lawns walled kitchen garden, orchard stabling, garage, three cottages miniature model farm; small park in all

271 ACRES, FREEHOLD.

The owner would consider letting the property unfurnished on lease. Full particulars from CURTIS and HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1. Telephone: 4706 Gerrard (2 lines). Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London.

TRESIDDER & CO.

37, ALBEMARLE STREET, W. 1.

HIGH PART OF EASTERN COUNTIES

HIGH PART OF EASTERN COUNTIES
OLD-WORLD Residence in park. Hall, 3 reception
rooms, billiard room, 7/8 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
Central heating. Electric light. 2 cottages. Garage.
Delightful well-timbered grounds with lawns, rockery,
stream with rustic bridges, small lake and parkland;
in all nearly
50 ACRES.
TRESIDDER & CO., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (12,919.)
BARGAIN PRICE 23,000, OR WOULD BE LET.
CARMARTHEN BAY (with foreshore
rights).—Billiard, 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc.
Stabling for 6, cottage, garage for 4.
Tennis and other lawns, walled kitchen garden, wood and
grassland; in all
25 ACRES.
TRESIDDER & CO., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (12,371.)

FOR SALE, OR TO LET, UNFURNISHED.

GLOS—Old-fashioned RESIDENCE, on gravel, commanding beautiful views. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 9 bedrooms. Electric light, central heating, telephone; garage, cottage, stabling, man's room.

Delightful grounds, tennis and croquet lawns, kitchen garden and grassland, in all 28 acres.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (15,234.)

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3 bathrooms, 11 dedrooms.

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ASCOT (near; 300ft. up, gravel soil).—Attractive modern HOUSE containing 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
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1,400 ACRES of exceptionally varied SHOOTING, including wild deer, pheasants, partridges, snipe, woodcock, hares, etc.

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with 24 bed and dressing, five bath and four reception room
PRICE FOR THIS UNIQUE SPORTING ESTATE,
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YET ONLY TWO HOURS BY ROAD AND RAIL FROM TOWN

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THE OLD PORTION DATING FROM 1580,

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Fine halls, three reception rooms, twelve bed and dressing rooms (all with h, and c, water), complete offices, two bathrooms.

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PICTURESQUE OLD SUSSEX-TYPE RESIDENCE WITH HORSHAM SLAB ROOF.

SECLUDED WOODLAND DRIVE WITH LODGE.

Lounge hall, two large reception rooms (including oak-panelled dining room), eight bedrooms, two bathrooms,

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The whole Property is in perfect order, and ready for immediate occupation

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UNDER AN HOUR FROM TOWN.

ADJOINING DELIGHTFUL COMMON.



Superb position: 400ft, above sea level, facing south: sand subsoil.

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in the midst of good sporting country. MODERN RESIDENCE,

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Nine bed, three bath, oak panelled lounge and dining room, drawing and billiard rooms, ample

Gardener's cottage; delightful grounds, capital home farm with house and good buildings; in all

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In the delightful Residential Villa

In the delig The picturesque COUNTRY HOUSE, well built and con-taining: Seven bedrooms, bath-room, three reception rooms, conservatory, ground floor offices. Good garage and cottage. Charming old-world GROUNDS of about

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ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED HOUSE COMMANDING MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OVER A GOLF COURSE. The House, which is approached from a private road by a carriage drive, contains, ON THE FIRST FLOOR, five bedrooms, all fitted with lavatory basins, bathroom.

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All main services

Wide terrace runs on two sides of the House BEAUTIFUL GARDENS include tennis lawn, etc.: in all about

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ndon.
Three good reception rooms, all study, five good and five hall betrooms, two bathrooms; ery modern convenience; large rage, good stabling.
Grass walks, garden, flowering rubs, river banks full of bulls, out 40 neres of meadow. Island sus, the cottages, three cottages, the recent walks walks walks, garden, flowering rubs, river banks full of bulls, out 40 neres of meadow. Island sus, three cottages,





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600FT, UP. BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN VIEWS.

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RESIDENCE.

Planned on two floors; everything in first-rate order.

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Spacious entrance hall, four reception, eleven bed and two bathrooms, offices, servants' hall independent hot water, electric light Co.'s water, modern drainage, central heating, telephone; garage, stabling, three cottages; really beautiful grounds, with tennis and formal lawns, elipped yew hedges stabling, three cottages; really beautiful grounds, with tennis and formal lawns, clipped yew hedges. WIDE MOAT WITH ISLAND, etc., together with pastureland;

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WITH A WEALTH OF OLD OAK.
ONE HOUR FROM LONDON. SOUTH ASPECT

Company's electric light and water, LODGE. NINE BEDROOMS (five more available FOUR
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In perfect order.

Four reception rooms, ourteen bed and dress-ng rooms, three bath-rooms.

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To be LET from Ladyday next, the charming COUNTRY RESIDENCE known as "Wootton House," containing lounge hall, four reception rooms, twelve bedrooms, three bathrooms and ample domestic offices: electric light and central heating; three cottages; tastefully laid-out gardens and ample garage accommodation, the whole ten acres in extent. Valuable shooting rights over 1,500 acres of adjoining land are included in the letting; hunting and golf within easy reach.—For further particulars and to view, apply Sole Agents, Messrs. WAINWRIGHTS & HEARD, Estate Offices, Shepton Mallet.

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TO PEDIGREE AND BLOODSTOCK
BREEDERS
THE BEST EQUIPPED ESTATE in the
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Very fine Residence (ten bed, etc.), having every modern
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all with bathrooms. Of especial appeal to men of capital
desiring an estate of the highest standard.—BENTALL,
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WEST SUSSEX

105 ACRES GRASS. \$4,750.

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Quiet and countrifled position ; commanding delightful views



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stream; in all about
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WITH EXQUISITE GROUNDS.

Near the Suffolk coast; attractive in every detail



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This exceedingly well-constructed

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THIS EXCEEDINGLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN FREEHOLD MARINE RESIDENCE, in excellent order throughout

Eight bed and dressing rooms, Two bathrooms, Three reception rooms, Billiard room, Glazed loggia, Complete domestic offices.

CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT.
COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER.
MAIN DRAINAGE.

THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS

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PRICE £6,500, FREEHOLD.

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IN ONE OF THE CHOICEST POSITIONS ON THE COAST.

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With private cliffs and foreshore.

AN EXCEEDINGLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN MARINE RESIDENCE.

perfectly secluded and sheltered on all sides by pine woods,

ctc.

Nine bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, loggia, servants' hall, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER. TELEPHONE. GARAGE. South aspect.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS.

including spreading lawn with space for two full-sized tennis courts, well-stocked kitchen garden, woodlands through which a path leads to the cliff edge. The whole extending to an area of about

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Golf. Bathing. Boating. Yachting. Fishing.
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The House and just over Two Acres only would be Sold if desired,

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Four miles from a golf course.

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to an area of about ELEVEN ACRES.

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Twelve bed and dressing rooms, Two bathrooms, Three reception rooms, Kitchen and offices.

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A fine modern RESIDENCE, commanding attractive views and containing three reception rooms, five bedrooms, four well-appointed bathrooms; all modern conveniences and separate cottage for servants; garage; pretty gardens.

THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES. £8,000.

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An attractive modern HOUSE with three reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms; electric light, main water and central heating; lodge, garage, stabling; charming grounds.

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1,048 OAK, containing approximately 39,943 c. ft.;
740 ASH, containing approximately 13,111 c. ft.;
204 BENDING ASH, containing approximately 1,950 c. ft.;
387 LARCH, containing approximately 5,023 c. ft.
250 SPANISH CHESTNUT, 10,364 c. ft.;
68 SYCAMORE, containing approximately 1,415 c. ft.;
71 SCOTS FIR, containing approximately 1,397 c. ft.;
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30,927 c. ft. of SPECIAL GRADE 1 BEECH, together with

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Four miles from Northampton and Wellingborough, Comprising

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About 20 acres of well-grown LARCH (from 3in, to 7in, q.g.),

132 OAK.
65 LARGE SCOTCH FIR.
65 SPANISH CHESTNUT.
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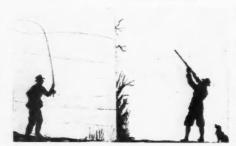
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FINE GARDENS, water and flower garden, two orehards and meadow with river frontage and boathouse in all about

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FREEHOLD, £3,500.

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In the Ashdown Forest area; high up: panoramic views.



TTRACTIVE RESIDENCE IN GEORGIAN ed, paved terrace, herbaceous borders, lawns, etc.; about THREE ACRES. FREEHOLD, £4,250, or be LET, Unfurnished. nts, MAPLE & Co., LTD., Tottenham Court Road, W.1.

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COUNTRY LIFE

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H.R.H. PRINCE GEORGE WITH THE COUNTESS OF DALKEITH At a meet of the Duke of Buccleuch's Foxhounds at Minto House

COUNTRY LIFE

COUNTRY LIFE AND COUNTRY PURSUITS

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Shooting Season, 1931-2

HE shooting season of 1931-32 is not an easy one to assess, for shooting, no less than other sports, is affected by economic considerations. Its precise value from the standpoint of heavy bags is, to a very large extent, masked by the reduction in guns and man-power, and fifty years from now some statistician of game records might say we had a poor year and attribute it to the wet summer rather than the economic depression.

If we take the depression, into account we must admit that results did not equal those of the preceding decade; but if we ignore the depression and examine what shooting -well, it was not a bad season.

Grouse were not good, for they suffered heavily from midsummer storms, and on some moors where the light shooting of 1930-31 had not reduced stock to suitable limits there were outbreaks of disease. The decline in rents failed to keep pace with the drop in demand, and many moors failed to find tenants. Even when the rent of a moor is abated, the cost of shooting is still a very heavy matter, and good moors which were notoriously expensive to drive were not in demand even at low rentals.

It was, on the whole, a fair season, the birds making an unexpected recovery after the disheartening summer. The dislocation of a poor letting season will, however, be felt for some time, for the shooting has not been uniform, and regions which were not thoroughly shot may next year carry too many birds for the available heather and induce a cycle of disease which so often follows on unchecked abundance.

The wet summer told heavily against partridges, for the preceding season had been almost a bumper year in most places, and everywhere there was abundance of breeding stock. The owners of manors justifiably looked forward to a really fine season which would redeem the long string of poor years in the last decade. They were disappointed, for in most parts the endless rain reduced the numbers of coveys to figures well below an average good year. certain extent the effect was marked by the relatively heavy stock left from the preceding season, and even where bags were tolerably good, it was clear from the number of old to young birds that it was secured at the expense of capital rather than income.

We make no excuse for calling the attention of our readers once more to the progress of the Enquiry into Partridge Disease which is being carried out through the medium of COUNTRY LIFE. As our readers are aware, the procedure of the Committee of Investigation has been to provide owners with a questionnaire covering the outline of their general experience of partridge raising, and to ask them, after replying to the *questionnaire*, to assist further by sending to Dr. W. E. Collinge of the Yorkshire Museum, York, who is acting as pathologist, any dead birds that they think likely to be of pathological interest. Dr. Collinge is particularly anxious that the supply of diseased and weakly birds for examination be kept up during the spring, and asks that all those owners who are helping in the work of the Enquiry should instruct their keepers to let him have one bird per fortnight until the end of May. Dr. Collinge fears that, with the return of birds to convalescence and seeming good health, the supply of specimens may fall off, which would be most unfortunate at this stage of the Enquiry, when the incidents of the disease in its later stages and the recovery therefrom are being followed in detail.

The pheasant alone of our game birds shows a creditable record for the year. It has been, without qualification, a good pheasant year. The old idea that pheasants were delicate and difficult to rear is being vanquished as we gradually acquire a deeper knowledge of scientific rearing and feeding methods. It would be difficult to find a season when the climatic conditions were so adverse, but the pheasant proved its adaptability, and hand-reared birds, properly fed, showed a very high average of successful Wild birds, on the other hand, suffered rather The lesson to be drawn from the season is that those shoots which reared from sound game farm eggs did very well, while those that reared their own eggs did not, on the whole, have the same good fortune. they saved on first cost they far more than lost on wasted labour. It is sometimes difficult to convince people that anything produced by an expert and organised industry is preferable to eggs of unknown age and provenance found on the estate. But the facts do not admit of denial. The game farm egg with its guarantee is a far better investment than the frost-chilled or sterile wild product, and the advantages of the outcross in blood, the selection of breeding stock and the retention of only the best and healthiest of birds are not matters one would ignore in any other line of stock breeding.

The estate owner has many problems to face in these difficult days, but the maintenance of good shooting is not, on the whole, expensive, and as soon as better times come it is the first amenity to show a direct profit. The better methods of rearing (to which COUNTRY LIFE has contributed no little pioneer work), the simplification of feeding and the better understanding of disease all contribute toward a reduction in the expense of shooting. It should be looked on not as a luxury, but as a branch of agriculture, and the vast strides now made in poultry rearing show how specialist intelligence devoted to any minor aspect of farming may change a relatively unremunerative side line into a sound and thriving industry.

EDITORIAL NOTICE

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., photographs and sketches submitted to him, if accompanied by stamped addressed envelope for return, if unsuitable.

COUNTRY LIFE undertakes no responsibility for loss or injury to such MSS., photographs or sketches, and only publication in COUNTRY LIFE cas, be taken as evidence of acceptance.



COUNTRY ·NOTES·

NATIONAL MARKETING

LETTER of the greatest possible interest appeared in the *Times* last week from Mr. Clare Vyner, whose admirable scheme for the reorganisation of death duties was described in COUNTRY LIFE some time ago. In his letter Mr. Vyner deals with the marketing organisation of farm produce, a matter which becomes of more vital importance every day that the application of duties to foreign produce continues. Mr. Vyner's main plea is that the whole question should be treated from a national and not merely from a local point of view. Marketing Act of last July, he points out, ignores to a large extent the fact that in so many parts of England mixed farming is the order of the day, and that it is quite impossible to organise local schemes when, by rights, nearly every product ought to be exported either to the next county or some other place which specialises in that particular commodity. The only really economical scheme of marketing is, therefore, one which will treat each commodity nationally and choose the necessary marketing centres accordingly. Such a national scheme can only be brought about by the co-operation of the four partners concernedthe producer, the consumer, the landowner and the railway companies—and if Mr. Vyner's letter does nothing else, it will have done a great deal of good if it brings home to all concerned how much more they can do to help themselves and one another than can be done by any amount of tariffs and legislation.

THE PART OF THE RAILWAYS

THIS, however, is by no means all. Mr. Vyner has the very practical suggestion to make that the railways might play a much greater part in effecting the organisation of sales of farm produce. As the Duke of Montrose has pointed out, it is an extraordinary thing that, with the wonderful monopoly of carriage which the railways enjoy, they have done so little to co-ordinate the collection, bulking and distribution of produce from the farms. They alone can advise as to where best to establish milk depots, grading stations and so forth, and there would seem to be no reason why, if they were to supply the necessary sites and realised that they were getting a practical monopoly as carriers, they should not give much improved trading terms to the producer. To such suggestions, of course, the railways reply that they have already done as much as they can in this direction, and that their well meant efforts have been effectually defeated by the conservatism and lack of co-operation of the farmers. This is, no doubt, very largely true, but that is one more reason why, at a time when reorganisation has obviously got to take place, the farmers and railways should do everything they can to assist one another. Mr. Vyner suggests a bargain by which the existing railway rates should be abandoned and a flat rate introduced on the declared value of the produce, regardless of the distance travelled. Such a scheme would enable the producer and consumer to get the fullest advantage of the railways and of their newer road services, which can collect produce from the farm and convey it direct to the distributing centre.

LIGHTING AT THE FRENCH EXHIBITION

NO exciting experiments in lighting have been made at Burlington House like those at the Persian Exhibition, where carpets were illuminated couleur de rose and the effect of moonlight in a Persian garden was ingeniously simulated. But few visitors can have failed to be impressed by the excellence of the artificial lighting of the galleries arranged by M. Fortuny. The light is ample, evenly distributed, and completely unobtrusive, and, in some extraordinary way, reflections have been eliminated. It is quite the best example of picture lighting that has been seen in any English gallery. The apparatus consists in large hemispherical reflectors and a powerful bulb with a "blind spot" on it to exclude the direct rays. It has long been an anomaly that the National Gallery should not have artificial lighting, since on many days of the year the pictures are scarcely visible, and during the winter a working man or woman is practically debarred from visiting it. Considerations of expense may interfere for the time being with an extension of hours and the installation of electric light. But the safety factor is by this time sufficiently assured, and in M. Fortuny's method of lighting the actual means are ready to hand.

PIRATE GOLD

- "Pieces of eight!" sighed the palm trees, whispering each to each;
- "Pieces of eight!" screamed the sea birds, in a voice like human speech;
- "Pieces of eight!" roared the long Pacific rollers, thundering up the beach . . .

Pieces of eight that they buried long ago,
Toiling up the hillside when the moon hung low—
Half a dozen pirates with a brass-bound chest,
Six out o' twenty-four, and where were all the rest?
Nigger Joe, Manuel, Pedro from Brazil,
Hooky Sam, and Black Patch, and Crook-nosed Bill . . .

Pillage of the Indies, plunder of the Main,
With a ghost to watch over it until they came again,
Big branched candlesticks crusted thick with gems,
Uncut diamonds for kings' diadems,
Emerald rings, silver bars, gold doubloons,
Rubies big as pigeons' eggs and pearls like moons . .

Dead men's treasure—never dawns the day
When the slim black schooner comes curtseying up the bay!
Dead men's treasure—no one left to know
The place where they buried it, centuries ago. . . .
C. Fox Smith.

THE VICTORIOUS SPRINGBOKS

EVERYBODY will ungrudgingly congratulate the South Africans on winning the fourth and last of their International matches. They beat Scotland at Murrayfield after a fierce struggle in horrible conditions, and so have beaten in turn all the four countries. If they have not played quite such attractive football as did the first South African side, with its fast and magnificent three-quarters, they have played always highly efficient football, with, quite properly, an eye on the main chance of winning, and so tremendous a pack of forwards has, perhaps, never been seen before. On the same day Wales, under the eyes of their Prince, were making England look a very poor side at Swansea. This victory has been ten years in coming, and it must have been sweet when it did come. probably, Welsh patriots were disappointed, for their men were so far superior that they might well have won by a far bigger margin. Certainly the crowd were not pleased with the referee, and the sinister sound of their booing as heard on the wireless was exceedingly realistic. The English selectors were probably wise not to choose a new team in a panic after the South African reverse, but, after this one, they will surely have to do something about it. Even though there is an unpalatable proverb about bricks and straw.

MR. VICARY GIBBS

THE late Mr. Vicary Gibbs was a distinguished member of the brotherhood of confirmed bachelors of which Horace Walpole is perhaps the type. No one was less of a dilettante, but, like him, Mr. Gibbs had absorbing passions for accurate information, the fruit of which was his edition

of his uncle G. E. Cockayne's Complete Peerage, and for domestic arts-in his case gardening. Over forty years ago he began to collect material for the copious, penetrating and supremely accurate annotations to the Peerage, and twenty years elapsed, during twelve of which he was Member for the St. Albans division in Parliament, before the first volume appeared. He has only lived to see half of this great work completed, which he began at his own expense; but, with the help of his collaborators and a body of subscribers, its completion is now fairly assured. His other passion, for gardening, was given scope by the arrangement with his brother, Lord Aldenham, by which he took over the family place at Aldenham. The heavy clay soil is far from ideal, but he concentrated on making a collection of all the newer and rarer trees and shrubs, especially American thorns. The gardens at Aldenham are vast, and, as might be expected, categorical rather than picturesque, in which they expressed the personality of their master. They were also known for the magnificent displays of vegetables exhibited at shows throughout the country. Mr. Vicary Gibbs and his gardener, Mr. Beckett, have performed a great service in raising the standard both of culture and exhibition.

SERVICE DRESS

THE old colonel who says that the British Army is going to the dogs is, to a great extent, a "fabulous monster now extinct." If, however, he can still be found, he will. If, however, he can still be found, he will, no doubt, be highly incensed by some proposals for a change of Service dress adumbrated in the "Report on the Health of the Army " for 1930. It is said that the tightly fitting collar is not at all healthy, and there is suggested instead a low-necked shirt to be worn with a tie. The comparatively open neck may not be smart, but it is undoubtedly sensible. How the proposal would have delighted the great Almond of Loretto, who made his boys go about coatless and tie-less, and was rendered furious and unhappy by the thought of soldiers in tight collars on hot field days. There is a further notion of something in the nature of "plus fours," but it is not so easy to see why this change is necessary. There is nowadays a fashion for wearing knickerbockers on all sorts of occasions, not all of them appropriate, but trousers are in fact at least as comfortable, and the exaggerated form of plus fours, as worn by a most unattractive form of young man, is one of the least becoming and most ridiculous of human garments. Here is all the making of a very pretty quarrel.

WHAT IS A MARTINI?

I T is always rather sad when two people who both minister to our comfort have a quarrel between themselves. This has just happened in the Law Courts of Rome, where Martini and Rossi attacked Cinzano on the ground that a Martini cocktail could only be worthy of its name when made with Martini vermouth. The defendants alleged that this particular cocktail had been devised by one Martinez, who had called this beneficent invention after himself or, alternatively, after the patron saint of New Orleans; but the Court, in default of evidence to this effect, seems to have thought that Mr. Martinez was in the nature of Mrs. Harris, and found for the plaintiff. In this country we shall be left rather cold by the decision, for the brutal fact of the matter is that in the Dry Martini as we habitually drink it there is only French and not Italian vermouth. On the other hand, if we want a "Gin and Italian," we can ask for it under that general title without wounding any susceptibilities, and shall probably be equally happy whether it is Mr. Martini or Mr. Cinzano who provides the necessary and eminently soothing ingredient. It is only when we drink a sweet Martini that we may have to mind our p's and q's.

IDEAL PUBLIC-HOUSES

"WE have been warned," the Licensing Commissioners report, "of the danger of improving the publichouse so far as to attract the custom of young people who might not otherwise be tempted to form drinking habits. The alternatives . . . are to leave the undesirable public-house unimproved, as a mere drinking shop, with structural conditions favouring continuous and sometimes partly concealed drinking, snugs, partitions, dark passages, and the like." In spite of this dreadful dilemma—which

has undoubtedly influenced licensing justices to the extent of causing them to refuse permission for the improvement of public-houses—the Commissioners put forward sensible suggestions for converting the "snugs and dark passages" into pleasant places where anybody can seek refreshment. An excellent specimen of a modern inn, the Woodman at Blackfen, is illustrated on another page. The London County Council is also putting into effect the general policy recommended in the Report (and supported by all sensible people) on its St. Helier housing estate, near Morden, where three public-houses are being built. They include such new features as a roof garden, concert room, children's restaurant, and shop for the sale of cooked foods, in addition to a centrally placed counter for the service of the various refreshment rooms with food and drink.

"RICHARDSON'S FOLLY"

IT is always satisfactory when the ideals of a practical visionary, at first ridiculed, gradually come to fruition amid general approval. This is happening at Oxford with the City Council's scheme for a great tree-planted boulevard to follow the right bank of the Isis from Godstow to Iffley. It was first proposed some five years ago by Mr. J. F. Richardson, the City Engineer, who, directly and indirectly, has done so much for the appearance of Oxford. A dispute arose with the Thames Conservancy over the maintenance of the towpath, and Mr. Richardson suggested the reservation of a deep strip of land all along the river to be eventually treated as a tree-shaded walk such as is found on the banks of some French rivers, and existed on the banks of the Ouse outside York in the eighteenth century. The scheme was so visionary that it was nicknamed "Richardson's Folly." But it was approved in principle, the land has been reserved, the Thames Conservancy have dumped thousands of tons of earth to form part of the boulevard, and local landowners have presented frontages. The realisation of the full scheme of embanking and planting will necessarily be slow. But the plan is there, and the property secured to a depth varying from a hundred feet to a hundred yards, in which the natural features will be preserved and improved. Ultimately this walk should be one of the greatest beauties of Oxford, and unique of its kind in England.

EROS

Eros come back? He never was away, Alack, alack, So far his arrows stray!

What care I Where the archer be If his arrows fly And find me?

N. CARRUTHERS GOULD.

PYLONS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

THE people of Keswick are making a determined stand against the proposals of the Central Electricity Board to erect pylons and overhead cables in the valley between Derwentwater and Bassenthwaite. Local opposition has hardened since the scheme was first threatened, and at a meeting held last week the various interested bodies, headed by the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, were asked to send a deputation to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Transport pressing for a public enquiry. During the past few weeks the Board has succeeded in obtaining way-leaves from the rural district councils on either side of Keswick, so that the town is now left isolated in its opposition, and all now turns on the attitude of the Ministry. The Lake District falls within the large, north-eastern "ring," which includes the whole of Lancashire, as well as Cumberland and Westmorland. The Board's case is based on the objection of Lancashire to pay for the increased cost of electricity which the laying of underground cables would involve. That argument, however, hits both ways, since the Lake District is Lancashire's chief holiday playground. To keep unspoiled one of the loveliest valleys in Cumberland is surely worth the slight increase in the quarterly lighting bill which might be necessary for the first few years.

"WEDDED WHITE AND BLUE"

Day of the cloud in fleets! O day
Of wedded white and blue, that sail
Immingled, with a footing ray
In shadow-sandals down our vale!—
And swift to ravish golden meads,
Swift up the run of turf it speeds.
—George Meredith.

EVER, perhaps, has one of the most essential beauties of English land and sky been better described than in George Meredith's "Ode to the South Wester." Our people are proverbially blind to all but the most startling features of landscape. The rest they take for granted—the patterned chequer of the countryside, even the starker beauties of the bare uplands of down and moor and wold are too usual to excite attention. But there are some beauties of cloud and sky which not the most unobservant of us can escape. Think of a day such as Meredith describes. The lanes of early June are full of hawthorn as you climb up to the open down and the salt sea breeze meets you with its burden of scudding clouds, great galleons which sail majestically in battle-rank with their attendant tiny pinnaces. And as these figments of wedded white and blue scud overhead, the sun strikes down among them and their shadows race over the land, now lighting up a wooded hill and now bringing into view a low-lying pasture, or glinting upon the surface of some tiny sheet of water and making one glorious kaleidoscope of green and gold. Stand, on such a morning, on the Downs above Steyning and watch the cloud shadows chasing across the Weald, to be lost in the blue shades of Leith Hill and the North Downs, and you will have realised one of the essential beauties of English cloudscape.

These reflections are not the result of observing the singularly

These reflections are not the result of observing the singularly un-English summer of 1931, but of a visit to the museum of Science at South Kensington, where, on the second floor, amid a riot of hygroscopes, thermometers and other meteorological instruments, are to be found a collection of extraordinarily interesting and beautiful photographs of clouds and cloudscapes. The exhibition is not primarily designed with an artistic object in view—in fact, its aims are scientific rather than æsthetic. But those who visit the Museum merely to see the pictures which have been taken by Mr. Bilham, Mr. Cave and Mr Clarke will not come away disappointed; as, indeed, may be seen from the photographs which are reproduced in these pages. There is a series of extremely interesting photographs of experimental clouds formed in the

laboratory by controlling the contact of streams of air of different temperatures and humidities. This leads naturally on to studies of the chief types of cloud as we know them in this country, their forms and the parts which they play in the complex business of weather. There is as yet no absolutely scientific classification of cloud forms, and the average man must be content at present with being able to recognise the chief forms and the intermediate varieties into which they merge. The cirrus, cumulus, nimbus and stratus are the four main groups, but there are intermediate types between most of them. The *cumulus* is, of course, our old friend the "woolpack," which makes up our fleets of galleons; the *cirrus*, the feather-like clouds of the upper atmosphere; the *nimbus* is the raincloud; and the *stratus* is a uniform layer of cloud, like fog, but not lying on the ground. There are many beautiful photographs of these general groups, and of the intermediate types, to be found at the exhibition, and particularly interesting is a set of photographs by Mr. C. J. P. Cave, illustrating the cloud conditions which preceded the great thunderstorm of July 11th, 1927.

July 11th, 1927.

Such studies of storm clouds bring us back to the old problems of weather-lore which existed long before meteorology was in any danger of being an exact science. Can we really make the clouds discharge their contents by a heavy cannonade? This was a problem of really practical importance on the Western Front, but all the gunfire and terrific bombardments of those four years did not seem to modify the climate. Yet it is only twenty years ago that Lord Dalrymple asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether he could arrange for the Fleet to carry out their gun-firing practice round the coast at some time other than the middle of the harvest, "when the resultant heavy rain might cause serious loss to the farming community." The First Lord was inclined to be sceptical, but not so much so as the Essex farmer who wrote in his diary: "If I could make the weather, I would have a soaking wet time every Saturday night during the summer, and if the rain continued on into the Sunday for a considerable time I could regard it through a window with perfect equanimity. I wonder how it is that all those people who work with explosive rain-balloons and hailstorm guns, and inventions of that sort, have not yet been able to give us a shower when we need it. Yesterday there was a tremendous cannonading at Shoeburyness for an hour or two, and as it is only some ten miles away as the crow flies, our windows shake and rattle as if it were an earthquake, but yet it



does not bring rain, and the glass is rising."

Another problem which has always fascinated the enquiring layman is that of red sunsets. Does a red sky at night really promise good weather? "When it is evening ye say 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'"—but, in spite of this Scriptural authority, anybody who seriously makes notes of red sunsets and their following weather is likely to develop a certain amount of to develop a certain amount of scepticism about the shepherds' delights. Much more significant is the fiery morning sky, and still more so the film of high cirro-

more so the film of high cirro-stratus that passes over the moon and produces the characteristic blurred lunar halo.

But it takes all sorts of weather to fill the cloud painter's palette. The livid skies, the purple and indigo masses of lowering cloud, the sudden rents and broken beams of sunlight which presage a great storm. which presage a great storm, have their own grim splendour not less affecting than the placid beauty of a July sunset seen from a southern coast across the sea, when the rosy tints of the high clouds fade to orange and lemon and lime—green as the fiery bath into which the sun's chariot has plunged changes to pearly grey and violet. And soon the moon steals from behind a cream-fringed mask and floods the bay with silver.

EDMUND BARBER.



"BEFORE THE GREAT THUNDERSTORM OF JULY 11th, 1927" Thundercloud (cumulo-nimbus) growing from cumulus and rising in the form of a great tower or anvil



C. J. P. Cave ALTO-CUMULUS Copyright Large rounded masses, white or greyish, arranged in groups or lines, and often so crowded together that cloudlets join

AT THE THEATRE

"CAVALCADE" RE-VISITED



"BIRDCAGE WALK: DEATH OF QUEEN VICTORIA, SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1901" A scene from Charles B. Cochran's presentation of Noel Coward's "Cavalcade" at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane

E evening last week I paid my third visit to "Cavalcade," which is a sufficient test of any play. The first time one sees a production of enormous scope and scale one is naturally a little too much bowled over by mere mass to appreciate the quality To ask anybody emerging from Drury Lane after a first visit what they thought of the piece is rather like asking a stranger what he thinks of London at the end of his first day. Every traveller wants to sort his impressions, and so does the playgoer. A second visit to anything is almost always a disappointment, for one expects the shock of first impact and doesn't get it. At a third visit one knows what one is going to get and, not expecting novelty, is not put off by the lack of it. I shall confess that I find the piece, which I now know upside down and backwards way about, much more pleasing in its general significance than as the chronicle of a family. This is not a complaint, for one reminds oneself sharply that this is exactly the way in which Mr. Coward distributed his intentions. Mr. Louis Golding has just published a book called Magnolia Street, whose hero is not any or all of its hundred and more characters, but the street in which they live. The hero of "Cavalcade" is not any or all of the members of the Marryot family, but the period of their vicissitudes, the thirty years which are the common property of everybody in this land old enough to have earned this inheritance. One of the amusing things about this entertainment is to watch the young people and note first how they are stirred and second how much they hate being stirred.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE

It is said that the young people miss a good deal of the compelling fascination of this piece. I wonder! To me, who left school before the Boer War, a good half of "Cavalcade" seems as legendary as if it occurred in one of Mr. Strachey's remoter biographies. This part of the piece, though my brain tells me that I have actually experienced the events it recounts, is to me as remote as, say, a period revival of "Caste," written before I was born. I seem to have heard, yet not heard, "The Soldiers of the Queen" and "The Absent-minded Beggar," to have seen, yet not seen, musical comedies like "Mirabelle," to have gazed upon such frocks and fashions as those worn by the Marryot ladies rather in the pages of Punch than on my mother the Marryot ladies rather in the pages of Punch than on my mother and her sister. Was one ever really anxious about Mafeking? And didn't people rather take it for granted that from the Boer War their menfolk would come back? Then comes that astonishing moment when the cry of a newspaper boy is heard in the basement of the Marryots' house. Somebody—I think it is the cook—whispers "The Queen!" and at once the years become real. There is no question row of pastiche

or period-and we are once again in the day of anxiety for the sovereign this country has most loved and who divides with great Elizabeth the glory of this Empire. The scene concludes with the blunt soldier's: "England won't arf seem funny without the Queen!" This, and the boy's: "She must have been a very little lady, mother!" and his mother's remark about the five kings, and the silent frieze in the Park, and the quick transition to the glittering Edwardian ballroom—all these bespeak that canny, called by some people uncanny, knowledge of the theatre which entitles its possessor to be called a genius. A very distinguished lady remarked about this last scene that there were not quite enough uniforms and that all the ladies should wear tiaras. Perhaps, when the time comes to re-dress "Cavalcade" this criticism may be useful.

THE WAR YEARS

None but a superb dramatist could have invented that scene in which the country throughout the years gives of its life-blood. That continual file of soldiers whose caps are replaced by helmets and from whose necks gas-masks are presently slung, while the votaries of recruiting lose seductiveness and grow haggard, and the nervous pace increases as the tragic horror of war deepens—this is rhetoric of the eye and "cousin to the Elizabethan rhetoric of the ear." And, of course, the man who can encompass rhetoric of any kind is a master dramatist. But that Mr. Coward can do the particular as well as the general is proved by the exquisite little scene on the "Titanic," which moved me much more on the third visit than on the two previous ones.

There is a good deal of individual emotion, too, in all the last half of the play, though here Miss Mary Clare's lovely acting is entitled to a full half-share of the honours. She does the scene at the railway-station most beautifully, though still less beautifully than the scene on Armistice Night, and connoisseurs of acting will be the first to realise how few words Mr. Coward has given her with which to accomplish her achievement. This is a case of a dramatist trusting his interpreter implicitly and the interpreter responding so magnificently that we are in two minds as to where the credit should be bestowed. Miss Clare did, however, disappoint me the least little bit in the world in her rendering of the epilogue. Perhaps this very fine artist was the least little bit tired, for the part is an extremely heavy But I do implore her not to let the slightest suspicion of perfunctoriness creep into the message, for to the audience it must always be new, and in this lies the whole meaning of the This curmudgeonly little growl apart, I say firmly that Mary Clare's performance in this piece takes rank in my mind as one of the great events in the English theatre of the GEORGE WARRINGTON. last ten years.

THE POLECAT

A VANISHING HUNTER BY NIGHT



"THE POLECAT IS ENTIRELY A NIGHT-HUNTER"

IFTY years ago the polecat was, I believe, a fairly common animal in England, but, except in parts of Wales, it is now practically extinct. To most people, and certainly to game preservers, this must be a case of "good riddance to bad rubbish," but I doubt whether he was as harmful to game as most books make him out to be. The damage he did to game is not the real reason for his disappearance, but what the real reason is rather difficult to understand in view of the fact that the stoat, if anything more dangerous to game, still flourishes.

is the real reason is rather difficult to understand in view of the fact that the stoat, if anything more dangerous to game, still flourishes. The polecat has up to eight or nine young in a litter—the same as a stoat—so that, in this respect, they start equal. The polecat hunts by night, so he escapes the gun—in which he has the advantage of the stoat, which hunts by day. On the other hand, a stoat, unless hard pressed for food, will not touch a dead rabbit. A polecat will do so, however, provided the rabbit is fresh, and so lays himself open to poison.

As regards trapping, the stoat again, I think, has an advantage, because, although both polecat and stoat will walk into any un-

As regards trapping, the stoat again, I think, has an advantage, because, although both polecat and stoat will walk into any uncovered trap which happens to be in their road, the stoat, once he has chosen the rabbit he wants, follows it until he has killed, and it would be a mere fluke if he fell into a trap while so doing. A polecat, however, being less active, hunts the rabbit "buries," hoping to corner a rabbit and kill it underground, and thus falls into any traps set solely for rabbits.

Finally, I think polecats keep very much more to given "runs" on their way from their lying-up places to their feeding grounds, and once a polecat is trapped in one of these runs any others that are in the district are nearly certain to be caught there sooner or later. A keeper I know caught sixteen polecats, one after the other, in one of these runs.

these runs.

The above is not necessarily an account of the whole question of the polecat's extinction and the stoat's survival, but it is an attempt to understand the

cause of it. As I have said before, the polecat is entirely a nighthunter and therefore less dangerous to game than a stoat, except, perhaps, to nesting birds in the spring. He is also less active than the stoat, and keepers in Wales have told me they would far prefer a polecat to a stoat on their beat. In their opinion a polecat confines his attentions entirely to rabbits where these are plentiful; but in bogs and marshland, which they are fond of frequenting, they catch quantities of frogs.

confines his attentions entirely to rabbits where these are plentiful; but in bogs and marshland, which they are fond of frequenting, they catch quantities of frogs.

I have read that polecats have a way of biting frogs so that they become paralysed, although still alive, and are then stored for use as required. When I read this I thought it rather a farfetched story, but I was actually told by a man who had experience of polecats that he had dug out polecat holes and had found live frogs in them apparently incapable of movement.

I have myself dug out several holes used by polecats, generally disused rabbit holes, but they were mostly in the hills, and I was never lucky enough to find a frog in this condition. In two of these holes there were wonderfully comfortable beds of rabbit fur,

I have myself dug out several holes used by polecats, generally disused rabbit holes, but they were mostly in the hills, and I was never lucky enough to find a frog in this condition. In two of these holes there were wonderfully comfortable beds of rabbit fur, with the bones of the unfortunate rabbit which, I take it, supplied the material. A polecat is a less wasteful feeder than a stoat, and lies up in some hole until he has completely finished the rabbit he has killed.

I think the stoat has a wholesome respect for the polecat, and certainly, in my experience, where there are polecats there are very few

are very few stoats. Once a ferret has run up against a polecat while rabbiting it will not enter a "bury" containing a polecat. I have seen a ferret put down into the mouth of a rabbit hole and sit there with all its fur on end, shivering. The keeper remarked that there must be a polecat in the hole, as this particular ferret had, previously, been badly bitten by one. It was too big a place to dig, so, as the ferret absolutely refused to enter, we left it.

A lot has been made of a polecat's smell, and when he is angry or frightened the



"HE HAS A RATHER OTTER-LIKE LOOK"

result is certainly not very sweet, but there is very little difference between a ferret and a polecat in this respect. Put two strange ferrets which do not agree into a bag and you will get a very fair imitation of a polecat's best effort in this direction. Polecats are, naturally, very like polecat ferrets, as the latter were originally a cross between the wild polecat and the ordinary white ferret. To a close observer who is familiar with both there are certain



A POLECAT AT HIS LYING-UP PLACE

differences one cannot miss. The wild polecat has a rather otter-like look to my eyes, and moves rather like an otter. Another difference I noticed in a polecat, which was thoroughly angry, was

that he curled his tail over his back rather in the shape of a letter S, reminding me of drawings I have seen of skunks. I have never seen a ferret or a stoat do this, however angry it was.

The ordinary colour of a polecat is dark brown with

The ordinary colour of a polecat is dark brown with a yellowish underfur, but I have seen one quite yellow, and also the skin of an orange-coloured one. The doo polecat is about the size of an ordinary ferret, but the buck is much larger. I have seen some bigger than the

biggest line-ferret I have ever known. Polecats wander big distances during the night when food is scarce, and a reliable keeper told me he had tracked one in the snow for six miles.

B. J. BRAMLY.

A GREAT COURSE CHANGED

By BERNARD DARWIN

FEW weeks ago I wrote some account of my adventures with a certain architect in considering changes to be made in a certain golf course. Discretion then demanded that names should not be given, though I imagine that any reader who knew the course can have been left in little doubt. Now that a general meeting of the club has approved the changes almost unanimously, I can openly say that the course is the illustrious and beloved one of Rye in the county of Sussex. Further, I may reveal that Mr. Simpson was the eminent person at whose command I obediently hit balls in order to show the places which the short middle-aged driver might be likely to attain.

It is obviously sad that Rye has got to be altered, for all who know it well love it well as it is. There is, however, no help for it. Once upon a time we used proudly to say that the road running along that narrow strip of links was the making of the course. Alas! the road has turned traitor and has been the undoing of its old friend. At the far end of the course there is a large, flat and not particularly attractive stretch of beach appealing to the heart of the holiday maker, on whom I beg leave to call down hearty maledictions. In the summer months this creature in his motor car pours along the road in an almost continuous stream. The golfer had to wait for long minutes before he could play his shot at certain holes, and even so, altogether apart from the nuisance, the peril became too great. Sooner or later somebody must have been hit on the head and, however bloodthirsty one may feel, one has to admit that this would not do. So some changes had to be made in order to avoid this danger. They are not, I rejoice to say, very many, and, though I am an intensely conservative person, I can lay my hand on my heart and say this, that I believe the course will be not merely none the worse, but actually the better.

OLD RYE AND NEW

Those who are so unlucky as not to know Rye had better skip. For those who do, may I very briefly and, it may be, incomprehensibly enumerate the alterations? The holes in the first nine that have to go are the first, third and ninth. In the second nine the tenth has to undergo a partial change, because the tee must be taken farther from the road, and this, in turn, involves a new seventeenth green, since the tee shot to the tenth will land where the old seventeenth green was. Because there is to be this new seventeenth there will also be a new tee to the eighteenth, which will make a somewhat different and, as I think, a better hole of it. Finally, though it was not absolutely necessary, the club—on the principle of in for a penny, in for a pound—has decided to have a new fourteenth.

Now let me try to explain—and it is a very difficult job—what the new holes will be like. The first starts close to the club-house by the flagstaff, whence there is a glorious, almost a hilarious, tee shot from a height. The green will be on a beautiful

piece of natural ground just below the eighth green, on the road side of it. Anybody who can visualise the country clearly will see that this is an admirable hole, of much the same length as the old first, with a tee shot which must hug the hills, followed by some form of iron shot over broken and benty country. There is some danger of death, as we putt, from the man who slices his eighth tee shot, but it is a very small danger compared with that which we run every minute of our lives at St. Andrews; and as the golfers must not murder the harmless passer-by, they must risk manslaughtering or accidentally killing one another. The third will be quite a good hole, though not of the superlative charms of the old one. In front of the coast-guard's cottages is a lovely natural plateau, and here will be the green. The tee will be immediately to the right of the second green, and the hole will call for a drive and a pretty run up.

The ninth will break altogether fresh ground. Let the player imagine himself standing some thirty or forty yards to the left of the eighth green, looking towards the club house. He will see an expanse of undulating sandy ground covered with bents, something in the shape of a shallow valley, as at the sixth hole at Prince's. The line to the hole will be down this valley right up to a new green touching that of the eighteenth hole. Perhaps the ladies will have to have the windows of their clubhouse wired, but as we, the men, already have ours wired, that is no hardship. The old tenth tee was far too near the road, and here is a real loss, for with a wind blowing hard from the left this was the finest and most truly testing tee shot in all the world. However, what must be must, and there will be a very good one from the high ground close to the club. The old fourteenth was never a great hole, save sometimes, perhaps, with a strong adverse wind, and the new ninth might partially have interfered with it. The new hole will be just to the south of the sandhill ridge that looks down on the thirteenth. Mr. Simpson has here lovely country and a free hand, and he is bound to produce something good. The new seventeenth will be what we have not had before, a long one-shotter, and the hole will be in a pleasant green hollow quite close to the road, much where a good tee shot ends to the old hole. It will be almost entirely natural, with just the minimum of dominating bunker, and Mr. Simpson, who can see unmade holes with a prophetic eye, believes in it intensely.

A GREAT HOME HOLE

The last hole must have a paragraph to itself. The teeing ground is to be on the edge of the sixteenth fairway, and the perfect tee shot will be between the big black boarded bunker on the left and some very rough country on the right. Then will follow the old second shot, greatly lengthened and glorified, so that the man who gets home with two shots will be able to plume himself. I believe, personally, that this will be one of the great home holes of the world. I have heard it complained

that a man will be able to top three shots and yet get home. Perhaps he will now and then, and who cares if he does? The people who are in the habit of topping three consecutive shots make their own hells for themselves and need no punishment from other tribunals. The big bunker, far from its occupation being gone, will catch many irritated tigers in place of a few terrified rabbits, for the tiger will get into it with a long hooky drive that he would like to call a good one.

And now, thank goodness, that is the end of explanations,

And now, thank goodness, that is the end of explanations, and I hope a few brave waders have grasped at least something of them. If we take the new course against the old, hole by hole, my own opinion is this, that the new course is one down at the tenth, gets all square at the fourteenth, becomes dormy at the seventeenth, and wins comfortably by two on the home green. No doubt some people will violently disagree,

but the most bigoted will, I hope, come round in time. The great comfort is that the changes had to be made owing to extraneous circumstances. We all love Rye so much that to have made these changes, as it were wilfully, might well have seemed blasphemous. I am all for a long-loved and respected hole gaining a prescriptive right to stay as it is. For all I know, the first and last holes at St. Andrews might be made better by some bunkers to catch the errant driver, but away with so horrid a thought! At Rye we are, I hope and honestly believe, going to be improved compulsorily, and that is another matter altogether. It is passing sad that we shall see no more the old third hole, but, thank goodness, I saw it once more played greatly, as a great hole should be played, when Mr. Crawley beat Mr. Evans there in the final of the President's Putter. If that is to be the end, it was a worthy and splendid one.

THE COMING SALMON SEASON

T is, I think, rather a wonderful feeling when first we get out the salmon rod and gear in early spring to know that another whole season lies ahead, and that for months to come we may pit our skill and strategy against the strength and cunning of one of the most splendid creatures in the whole of Nature's realm.

With this thought in our minds there must come another, for salmon fishing is not like angling for trout. The latter, we know, will be there any time we want them, and, although weather and other conditions may help or handicap our efforts, it is something—quite a good deal, in fact—to have the assurance that there are fish in the pools.

But as each new salmon season begins, we are up against the same age-old question: What has the future in store? Will there be plenty of salmon or not?

there be plenty of salmon or not?

I think there were many anglers, particularly those whose experience did not go far back before the War, who were accustomed to take the presence of salmon each year rather as a matter of course. Some seasons were better than others, and a good deal depended on the weather, for without a flood every now and then the fish could not, or would not, enter the rivers. Then rods had a lean time, although probably the nets made great catches. Such a year was 1921.

But there was a rude awakening in store for these folk. It began in 1929, a season which opened well with big runs of five year old salmon. But as the months went on, no four year olds, which form the main harvest in the majority of rivers, appeared, and the pools remained practically untenanted all season save for the hig springers.

for the big springers.

On top of this shock came another. In 1930 there were no five year olds, and, worse still, for the second year in succession, no four year old salmon. Later on, in July and August, there came big runs of grilse, which saved the season from being a complete blank in many, although not all rivers.

although not all, rivers.

But this did not disguise the fact that it was possible for the salmon harvest to fail almost completely in nine out of ten rivers in the kingdom. Therefore we entered 1931 in fear and trembling as to what would be our fate.

However, the bad time proved for the most part to be over, although all rivers were not equally fortunate. There was, it is true, an almost complete lack of five year olds, a feature only to be expected; but there were wonderful runs of fish a year younger, and in many rivers all records were broken. It was also another very good year for grilse.

Now we come to 1932, and the sport we shall enjoy, weather permitting, depends on three classes of fish—five year olds, born in 1927; four year salmon, hatched in 1928; and grilse, if any, which first saw light in 1929. Of these, the first and second classes are the most important.

To ensure a good supply of fish of any one age, several things are necessary. The first is a good spawning season the requisite number of years before. But a good spawning season is not everything, and it is probable that, if food is scarce when the shoals of smolts reach the sea, they will perish in thousands and tens of thousands.

tens of thousands.

This is probably what happened to the smolts in 1927, the progeny of fish which ran in 1924. This was an excellent spawning season; well stocked redds and favourable weather. Yet when 1929 came there were no four year olds, no five year olds in 1930, and none aged six in 1931. Much the same thing must have happened to the smolts in 1928, because there were no four year fish in 1930 or five year olds in 1931.

In estimating our chances in 1931.

In estimating our chances in 1932 we have the advantage of knowing several most important things. First, that the smolts which descended in 1929 found sea conditions to their liking and flourished exceedingly, as witness the vast numbers which returned as grilse in 1930 and as four year olds in 1931. Therefore, we are entitled to expect a very good supply of five year olds in 1932.

which descended in 1929 found sea conditions to their liking and flourished exceedingly, as witness the vast numbers which returned as grilse in 1930 and as four year olds in 1931. Therefore, we are entitled to expect a very good supply of five year olds in 1932.

Mr. Arthur Hutton, whose work on salmon problems has done so much to increase our knowledge of the fish, says: "All my investigations on the Wye proved conclusively, that as a general rule, a good or poor run of small fish (i.e., those which have spent two years in the sea) is almost invariably followed in the next year by a similar large or small number of the next year class (i.e., the large spring fish which have spent three years in the sea.)"

sea.)"
We had the four year salmon in 1931, and therefore should get those a year older, fish of some weight, in 1932. Mr. Hutton goes on: "We have never had a good run of grilse which has been followed by a poor run of the larger fish in the two following seasons." This was proved correct by 1930 and 1931. We had the grilse in the former, and the four year olds followed.

But we also had

But we also had grilse in numbers in 1931, and so we can confidently look for the four year fish in 1932. The fact that there were many grilse in 1931 is very important, because they would be the progeny of the salmon which came up in 1927. This, as all anglers will remember, was a real annus mirabilis, when immense numbers of three, four, five and six year olds ran up nearly all our rivers. Whether there will be many grilse again in 1932 it is impossible to say. Probably it depends on whether the smolts found good feeding in the sea during spring and early summer of 1931.

But, even supposing there are few, if our expectations of plenty of four and five year olds are fulfilled, 1932 should go down to posterity as a very wonderful salmon year.

If only the weather

If only the weather is kind: so much hangs on this where rod fishing is concerned.

West Country.



LADY JANE EGERTON SALMON FISHING IN THE TWEED AT MERTOUN

IN THE HUNTING FIELD







MEET OF THE HAMPSHIRE AT THEDDON LODGE Lady Lymington and her son, the Hon. Oliver Wallop Lady Cantelupe, Lord Templemore, and General Sir George Jeffreys

THE PORTMAN AT ST. GILES Lord Shaftesbury, with the Master, Mr. W. W. B. Scott





LADY BELPER AND HER SON, THE HON. PETER MISS ANNE CAPEL AND LADY ROSEMARY ELIOTT, STRUTT, OUT WITH THE QUORN AT A MEET OF THE BADMINTON





RACING RECENT NATIONAL HUNT

STEEPLECHASERS AND HURDLERS, AND OUTSTANDING

ONSIDERING the times," as everyone says about everything, it can be said that all is well with National Hunt racing in its 1931-32 season. Attendances have been fair; the racing has been up to the average; and at least it can be said that the outlook is encouragand at least it can be said that the outlook is encouraging. At Lingfield Park last week-end the racecourse manager, Mr. F. W. Wilmot, said they lost money on their December fixture, and he would be satisfied if they made both ends meet with this January fixture.

This winter, having proved so astonishingly mild, fewer interruptions than usual have been inflicted on fixtures. A year ago at this time many more days had been lost through intervention by fog, frost, snow or floods. There has been the minimum this time, and when the weather has been really benign, with some sunshine, lovers of steeplechasing and hurdling have come forth in surprising numbers. I sometimes think if National come forth in surprising numbers. I sometimes think if National Hunt racing could be guaranteed flat-racing weather it would draw bigger attendances, except, of course, on the big occasions. I have often wondered why, in the spring and autumn, executives do not stage a mixed grill dish of flat racing, steeplechasing and hundling. It is explained to me that the Leyley.

hurdling. It is explained to me that the Jockey Club would not welcome the idea and yet it is done in most other countries where there is appreciation of the commercial importance of

Hurdle racing, on the whole, this season h been disappointing. I have yet to see a really high-class young hurdler. Some people have raved about Mr. J. H. Whitney's Jericho, a grey son of Roi Hérode. After an inconspicuous first display at Newbury he has since won races at Lingfield Park and Hurst Park, the first over a mile and a half, and the second over two miles. He gave the impression on the latter occasion of being a doubtful two-miler. Certainly he did not

being a doubtful two-miler. Certainly he did not win in the devastating fashion of a young champion.

I do not hesitate to say that the steeple-chasing has been ever so much more entertaining. Who can be surprised? There is so much more to it. The high-class 'chaser is a fine fellow in every respect, and both he and his jockey deserve all the "medals" they win. One could have wished there were more horses in the land of the true Grand National type. It is a fact that all sorts and sizes have won Grand Nationals, but it is also true that there must be an accepted type of horse for the job—that is to say, a horse with size, horse for the job—that is to say, a horse with size, power, exceptional jumping powers, and unusual constitution. There are very few about to come

constitution. There are very few about to come up to that description.

Horses which have made a mark this season over fences have done so from distances ranging from two to three miles, and among them may be mentioned Kingsford, West Indies, Royal Scot, Colliery Band, Drintyre, Alike, Remus, Golden Miller and Sir Lindsay. Those are just a few that occur to my mind. Gib, who had made a hig name for himself at this time last year, has big name for himself at this time last year, has een in waiting for some of the bigger events which are coming on.

Remus is a big fellow, standing over 17h., and he looks an ideal sort for the Grand National. He is lacking in muscular development, though one sees an improvement in him in this respect compared with last season. Yet he still needs to prosper

in a physical sense. He was a recent winner at Gatwick, and then failed at Hurst Park over three miles to give 23lb. to one named Cathalan, who owed much to the fine jockeyship of W. Stott. Remus is owned by Mr. A. E. Berry and is trained by the exsteeplechasing jockey, Frank Morgan. The former tells me that he will ask his horse to race twice more before trying for Grand National honours. It has been arranged that in the big steeplechase he shall be ridden by "Tony" Escott, who is in good form just now. just now.

just now.

Kingsford is something of a champion over a two and a half mile course. A wonderful piece of work he might be called, because, though a tremendous puller, he is apparently a safe jumper. He is of the clever sort that know how to look after themselves. West Indies, it will be recalled, won at Liverpool last November, since when she has not been seriously fancied. For a time she did very little work because her forelegs were badly punctured by thorns, the result of the very bad mistake she made at Liverpool when she nearly came down. Probably she has been out this week at Newbury.

she has been out this week at Newbury.

Alike is under the average size of 'chasers, but she is a rare Allke is under the average size of chasers, but site is a faire little mare to-day. She was not started against Drintyre and Sir Lindsay at Lingfield Park last week-end because the ground was considered much too heavy, and I doubt whether she will ever be good enough to win a National, though she would not be the first under-sized mare to do so. I have, however, no doubt that she is exceptionally good up to three miles on our park courses.

Drintyre had come to be accepted as the best 'chaser of the present season. He had done everything asked of him, from winning under a big weight over fences to scoring in a flat race winning under a big weight over fences to scoring in a flat race at Sandown Park some time ago. Last week-end I saw him dead-heat at Lingfield Park over three miles with Mr. Whitney's Sir Lindsay, who, it will be recalled, finished a good third for the Grand National won by Shaun Goilin two years ago. Because of the heavy state of the going at Lingfield Park, it would not have surprised me had he been not started. As it was, there were only three opponents, one of them being Sir Lindsay, who was in receipt of IIIb. So far as one could judge, the latter was not seriously fancied, being thought backward in his training. With odds of a to 4 betted on Drintyre was, therefore, thought to be odds of 9 to 4 betted on, Drintyre was, therefore, thought to be

odds of 9 to 4 betted on, Dimiyre was, therefore, thought to be virtually walking over.

I am sure he did not relish the going as it was. It is the only excuse I can offer for jumping which was not so polished as usual. As a rule he jumps very quickly, and is especially spry in getting away on landing. Half a mile from home, when he should have been drawing away and making his known turn of speed effective, he could not shake off Sir Lindsay, whose jockey was sitting



STEEPLECHASING AT LINGFIELD Drintyre (nearer camera) and Sir Lindsay taking the last jump in the Burstow Double Handicap Steeplechase at Lingfield. They deadheated, and

are both Grand National candidates perfectly still. Thus was the first hint given of a finish which was perfectly still. I hus was the first nint given of a finish which was going to be interesting. They were dead level as they jumped the last two fences, and the judge said they were dead level as they passed him. Probably Sir Lindsay was unlucky not to win comfortably, but it struck me that his jockey was not anxious to ask too much of a three-parts fit horse, while Captain Brownhill was in no mood to apply extreme measures to his faithful servant.

was in no mood to apply extreme measures to his faithful servant. Hence the dead-heat.

The race, as it was run, told me that the best was not seen of Drintyre, and that Sir Lindsay, if not subjected to a too severe preparation for the Grand National, will again have to be reckoned with. His jumping was perfect throughout, while he seems to have developed a turn of speed to a surprising extent.

A word more about the jockeys. Three there are that are outstanding among the professionals—W. Stott, who has been the leading one for several seasons past; G. Hardy, who is leading this season; and W. Speck. The best amateur beyond question is Mr. F. Thackray; while Mr. J. Fawcus is the best in the north and would be much more prominent were he to ride more generally in the south. Stott represents the spirit of courage and determina-

and would be much more prominent were he to ride more generally in the south. Stott represents the spirit of courage and determination, and is justly most popular and trusted. Speck, too, is full of courage, and is a fine finisher, over fences or hurdles. Hardy has made rapid headway during the past few months and has deservedly come to the front, where he will stay. He has an artistic seat, good hands, and horses race smoothly for him. All three ride over both fences and hurdles. There are others who specialise only in hurdling, but the all-rounders are the little men I so much admire. Mr. Thackray would hold his own among the professionals, which is giving him high praise. He may, indeed, be said to do so because he wins so many races when competing on equal terms with them. He sits very close to his

horse, he rides well through a race, and I look upon him as the best amateur we have had for a very long time. I hope he will long be with us and that he will be able to retain his amateur status.

PHILIPPOS.

A GREAT PLANT COLLECTOR

ARDENERS all over the world will have learned with deep regret, and a sense of personal loss, of the untimely death of Mr. George Forrest, the well known plant collector, at Tengyueh, a little over a fortnight ago. Mr. Forrest was just preparing to return home after completing his seventh and what was generally regarded as—and so, unfortunately, it proved to be—his last plant-hunting trip to the Far East. His death is a real loss to horticulture and botany, for, although his work in the field was nearing its close, there was much awaiting his attention at home, in the identification and classification of his many discoveries, and much for which, in association with Professor W. W. Smith of Edinburgh, there was no one better qualified

tion with Professor W. W. Smith of Edinburgh, there was no one better qualified than himself to undertake. It remains with history to accord him his proper place in the ranks of plant collectors, but already his discoveries place him as one of the greatest, if not actually the greatest, of the present generation of plant collectors. Since his first expedition to Yunnan in 1904, to collect for Mr. A. K. Bulley, at the instigation of the late Sir Isaae Bayley Balfour of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, he has

collected some 30,000 plant specimens, which include well over a thousand plants new to science, and has been responsible for the reintroduction of many plants that had been previously introduced by such collectors as Delavay, who had been over the ground before him, plants that had, since Delavay's time, been lost to cultivation. Although interested in every kind of plant, he was undoubtedly a specialist in the two enormous genera of rhododendrons and primulas, many of the finest species of which



THE LATE GEORGE FORREST, V.M.H.
A great collector and lover of plants

in our gardens to-day we owe to his intense zeal, critical judgment and keen observation. His introductions were so numerous and so varied that it is impossible even to attempt a list, but it is safe to say that many of the finest of our garden plants in cultivation are the result of his labours in the field.

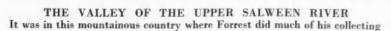
What is not so commonly known is that, in addition to plants, which it was his chief duty to collect, he made large and important collections of birds, insects, moths and butterflies on each of his expeditions, and has added enormously to our knowledge of the natural history of the mountainous country round the Mekong and the Salween rivers.

round the Mekong and the Salween rivers.

No European knew more of the province of Yunnan and the Chino-Tibetan borderland, its flora and fauna, and its people, than Forrest, and no one was held in higher esteem by the inhabitants and by his own band of native collectors. No difficulty, danger or hardship was too great for him to overcome in pursuit of his work, as those who have heard him tell of his hair-breadth escapes on his earlier expeditions in 1904 and 1910 will know. He has died, as he doubtless would have wished, among the hills he loved so well. His name will never be

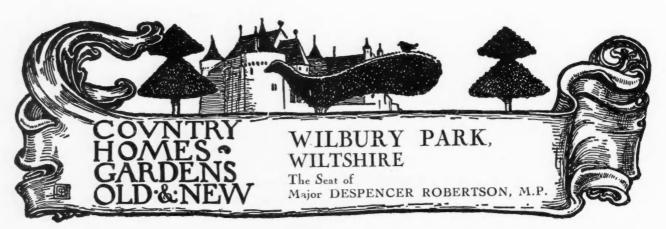
His name will never be forgotten, for he has left a rich heritage for all who love and grow plants, and his name is perpetuated in many of his discoveries, of which Primula Forrestii, Pieris Forrestii, Buddleia Forrestii and Iris Forrestii are but a few of the more outstanding examples.







A TEMPLE NEAR TENGYUEH
The hillsides are covered with rhododendrons



"Invented and built," as Colin Campbell says, by William Benson, Surveyor of H.M. Works, about 1715. The house and grounds remain much as he made them.

ILBURY at once brings to mind the strange story of William Benson who, thrust into Sir Christopher Wren's place of Surveyor of the Works as a political job, caused terror to the peers by reporting that the House of Lords might any day tumble about their ears. He was found to be an ignorant alarmist and was quickly transferred to a less responsible but equally remunerative post.

As this Italianate amateur favoured and leant on Colin Campbell as a capable and learned professional who could keep him in the straight architectural path, we may well wonder how the House of Lords panic came about. But the close connection between Campbell and Benson appears not only from the annals of the Office of Works, but also in reference to Wilbury. It is described in Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus

The Seat of William Benson Esq. and built by himself in the Stile of Inigo Jones.

Except for a room added later at each end, the ground plan of the actual Wilbury is the same as that which is given by Campbell (Fig. 9). But the elevation differs very remarkably. As illustrated, it appears even more devoid of chamber accommodation than other Anglo-Italian villas of its date, and the second storey may well have been added as a lapse from "pure architecture" in deference to convenience as the building arose. Campbell was a devotee to the memory and manner of Inigo Jones, and the scheme of Wilbury may well have had more to do with the professional than with the amateur.

Wilbury was a new name for the new, or, anyhow, completely reconstituted, house that Benson erected on the Newton Tony manor estate after he purchased it in 1709. Going north-east out of Salisbury up the valley watered by the little river that falls into the Avon near the cathedral city, but has on its banks the three Winterbourne parishes of Earl's, Dantsey and Gunner, we reach Newton Tony village, set at the head of its thort course, and where only from winter to early summer do its waters run above ground in its bed. Bordering that bed, on its south-western bank, is a typical row of Wiltshire village houses, all thatched, but varying in size to accommodate farmer and labourers. The principal roadway is along the north-east bank, and here a row of lime trees shades it and screens the churchvard.

The church, we are told, fell down, and was re-edified in about 1840. It is now uninteresting as an edifice, but contains monuments to members of four families that have owned the manor—Joneses and Fienneses, Bensons and Malets. Sir Richard Hoare—whose South Wilts was published in 1825—describing the parish as "secluded in a little bourn," tells us that the manor belonged to the Wests in the fourteenth century, and, as patron of the church, it was Thomas West, Lord de la Warre, who presented to the living in 1486. It then passed to the Reades, and probably through an heiress came to the Joneses, of whom Francis Jones presents in 1633. There is in the church a slab to the memory of his wife, who died in 1652. That will have been about the date when the estate was purchased by Colonel the Hon. Nathaniel Fiennes.



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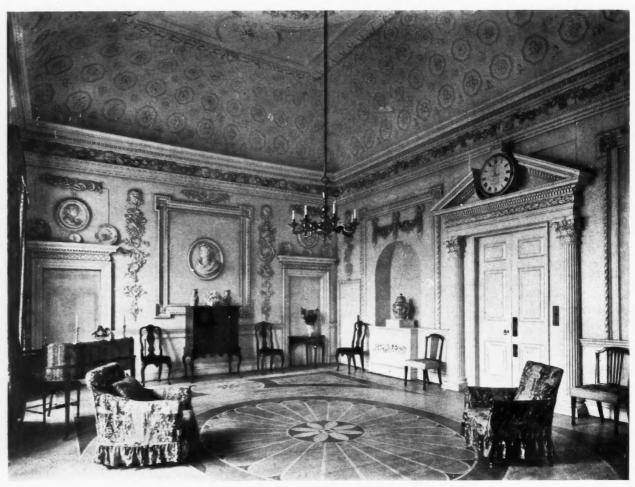
1.—THE HOUSE, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



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2.—THE SALOON CHIMNEYPIECE

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

3.—THE NORTH AND WEST SIDES OF THE SALOON It occupies the centre of the south elevation

"COUNTRY LIFE."

He was the second son of the Puritan peer, William, first Viscount Saye and Sele, owner of Broughton Castle, whose cautious, although decided, opposition to Charles I's personal Government earned him the nickname of "Old Subtlety." Nathaniel was a more open adherent of the Parliamentary and Cromwellian régime. He served as a colonel in the early days of the Civil War. He took part in the battle of Edgehill in 1642, and in the next year saved Bristol from falling into the hands of Prince Rupert. As its Governor, however, he was soon after unable to avoid capitulation and, accused of treachery by the extremists of his party, he retired abroad until Cromwell, reaching supreme power, exonerated and employed him. In 1654 he is of the Council of State and a



4.—STUCCO AND WOOD CARVINGS IN THE SALOON



5.—IN THE LOBBY WEST OF THE HALL



Copyright.

6.—THE BLUE DRAWING-ROOM, LYING EAST OF THE SALOON

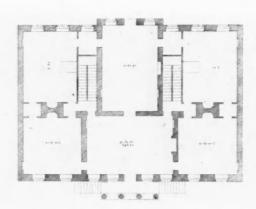
"COUNTRY LIFE."



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7.—THE LIBRARY IN THE LITTLE GEORGE III WEST WING

"COUNTRY LIFE."





8 and 9.—THE PLAN AND ELEVATION AS GIVEN IN THE VITRUVIUS BRITANNICUS It is uncertain whether this design was carried out, or whether the additional storey was added as the building progressed

Commissioner of the Great Seal. Four years later he is of the deputation that offers the Crown to the Protector.

With Cromwell's death his career ends. His father, who has been keeping in the background, sufficiently favours the Restoration to be included in the Privy Council in 1660; and is able to ward off any danger which may have threatened Colonel Nathaniel, who retires to his manor of Newton Tony and there is forgotten as regards either rewards or punishment. Nine years later he is buried in the church, and although his son by his first wife will have succeeded him in ownership, his widow and daughters used the house and had some interest in the estate. Of his two surviving daughters the younger one was Celia Fiennes, who from girlhood days made notes of what she saw in the way of manners and customs, towns and houses in various visits she paid and jaunts she took. These notes she afterwards wrote out in a manuscript volume

which she called "The account of Severall Journey's into Severall part; of England with many Remarks." These remarks are apt and intelli-gent, and therefore throw much light on the ethics and circumstances of the day. Unfortunately, she took Newton Tony-where she was brought up and to which she often returned until its sale in 1709—for granted and gives us no description of what the home was like or where situated. and only from the deed of sale do we know that "all that manor of Newton Tony" had a "capital messuage."

Three years after her father's death her halfbrother inherited from a sonless uncle the viscounty of Saye and Sele and the family seat at Broughton. Newton Tony served as the dower house of Celia's mother until her death in 1691, and frequently after that we find Celia returning there
But in whose

occupation it was after 1691 does not appear. It is not only Saye and Sele, but Celia herself and her married sister and the latter's husband and son who sign the deed of conveyance to William Benson. He was then a young man of twenty-seven, who three years before had inherited a fortune from his father, who three years before had inherited a fortune from his father, who had been Sheriff of London. This City knight had sent his son on the Grand Tour to catch the artistic and literary touch which was part of the education of our aristocracy in those days of Whig oligarchy. He caught not only the æsthetic but also the political spirit of the party. He posed as a Mæcenas, a generous patron of art, architecture and learning, while his control to the test of the party. politics took the form of recouping himself, by lucrative office, for his over-indulgence in æsthetics. He entered Parliament, and in Queen Anne's High Tory latter days wrote a pamphlet against the High Tory doctrine of the accountability of kings to God only, which surely gave him a right to tich reward when the Whigs

triumphed and the Hanoverian succession was assured.

By that date the shekels earned in the City by the father had been much scattered. It was not merely the building and laying out of Wilbury that was proving costly. He also acquired Brownsea İsland in Poole Harbour, and did much building at its castle and de-velopment of its land. How lavish he was towards i m p e c u n i o u s authors we gather from his giving £1,000 for a trans-lation of Milton's Paradise Lost into Latin verse. By 1718 it was quite clear to him that his political party, now in the ascendant, should aid his finances. The Auditorship of the Imprests was quite a valuable sinecure and would be just the thing for him. But there was no immediate vacancy, and so a stopgap must be found. Why not the office which, for half a century or so, Sir Christopher Wren



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10.—THE HALL Occupying the centre of the north elevation

"COUNTRY LIFE."

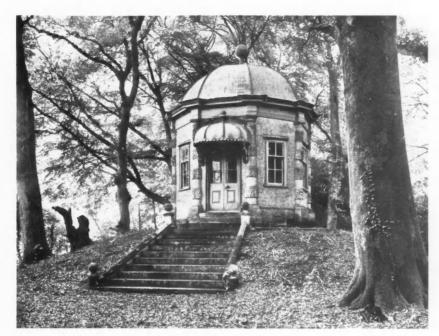
had so gloriously filled? Under him the Office of Works had risen much in reputation, for not only was he its Surveyor, but under him were Vanbrugh as Comptroller and Hawksmoor as Secretary. It was over them that the Whig Benson was put when the Tory Wren was displaced, and lesser officers did not like it. Vanbrugh's patrons and friends are among the Whig Ministers, but with he is a strengton to them. but yet he is outspoken to them as regards Benson, and writes to the Duke of Newcastle that he is preparing a "Plain intelligible paper" to be a "Plain intelligible paper" to be submitted to the King which will show how bad and expensive is the management of the Office of Works under Benson, and that, as regards some Royal building, the King would see "That if the Contract had gone on with Benson, he had not sav'd him one Shilling; So Vilely did that Gen^t: Impose upon the Treasury by giving in false Accounts of Everything." Hawksmoor is still more explicit, and declares that Benson, "in Extream Need of an employment could find nothing at that time but ye Office of Works to fall upon, so disguifing himself under the pretence of an architect, got himself made Surveyour Generall," and, as such, "got more in one year (for confounding ye Kings Works) than Sr Chris. Wren did in 40 years for his honest endeavours." Fortunately for Benson, endeavours." Fortunately for benson, soon after the House of Lords affair led to his suspension, the "Imprests" fell vacant and he became "Mr Auditor Benson," as Richard Hoare describes him, with Wilbury as his "principal Seat."

Wilbury House stands on high ground, and isolated from the village by half a mile of park. That was not a usual position for an ancient manor house, which was generally set by the church with the villagers' homes close by. Already, however, in Benson's time, isolation and outlook were considered desirable by the creators of lordly country seats. Up Park, in Sussex, was built high on the South Downs in an isolated position by Lord Tankerville under William III, while Sir Robert Walpole, beginning the new Houghton under George I, removed the whole village to the outside of the vast park.

Thus the site of Wilbury, backed, to the north by the avenues and groves.

Thus the site of Wilbury, backed, to the north, by the avenues and groves of beech trees (Fig. 12) planted by Benson as part of a formal lay-out, and with a view south down to the little valley of the Winterbourne, was what was becoming fashionable and what we appreciate to-day. But was it a new site? In the course of the alterations made by Major Despencer-Robertson, who bought the estate some years ago, interior walls were found composed of oak framing and showing places for doors and windows quite incompatible, as to levels and character, with anything that William Benson built. He must have incorporated parts of an old structure, but whether this was the old home that Celia Fiennes had lived in or only some sort of unimportant "Lodge" in what was then a sporting wild there is no evidence to establish.

What Benson built was a stone and plaster house in the strict classic



Codyright. 11.—THE TEMPLE "COUNTRY LIFE."

It looks down one of the long beech avenues lying north of the house



Copyright 12.—TALL BEECHES FORMING ONE OF THE AVENUES "C.L"

manner of his day, with a nine-windowed front, the three central windows on the ground floor being under a four-columned portico. That this main block was completed by as it now stands (Fig. 1), and not as we the Vitruvius Britannicus, is probable. But the little wings, each with a projecting bay, will have been added later in the eighteenth century, and the main block may have had changes made at the same time. One thing is certain, that Benson carried out a fairly rich decorative scheme throughout the ground floor of the central block, and this has never been seriously tampered with.

From the north portico—looking out from which the eye is carried along a fine beech avenue to a distant co'umn you enter a deep but rather narrow hall (Fig. 10) with pedimented door frames and niches, and with rich frieze and cornice mented door frames and niches, and with rich frieze and cornice above walls well arranged in sunk panels. On either side of the hall are the staircase spaces, under the half-landings of which are lobbies, one of them being charmingly decorated in plasterwork both as to coved ceiling and walls (Fig. 5). In the old plan the rooms approached through these lobbies are marked with beds in them, as would certainly be needed as long as the original scheme of elevation held the field. Now—and perhaps from Benson's time—they are used as a dining and drawing-room and drawing-room.

The chief room of the house, as was then the plan, opened out of the end doorway of the hall and took the form of a great and lofty saloon known as the South Hall. Walls and ceiling were given over to stuccoists and joiners to make a splendid and all-embracing decorative unit (Fig. 3). First and foremost was the chimneypiece, occupying the centre of the east side (Fig. 2). Its two storeys rise to nearly the height of the ceiling architrave, and the upper part has a charming bas-relief of boys and a dolphin framed in a rich frame flanked by "drops" of fruit and flowers as designed by the followers of Grinling Gibbons. Next in importance to the chimneypiece is the great

doorway from the hall in the centre of the north wall. It was not intended to have a clock thrust into the space afforded by the broken pediment. On either side of it are enriched recesses with somewhat projecting plinths below them, evidently designed for statuary. Pairs of doorways, of less size, but of charming design, occupy the ends of both east and west sides, charming design, occupy the ends of both case. Three and have medallioned profile heads above them (Fig. 4). Three and have medallioned profile heads above them (Fig. 4). The floor is great windows light the room from the south. The floor is scagliola of charming design and colouring, while the ceiling has a vast cove with little octagonal panels rising to an amply enriched flat. It is an excellent example of the rich yet dignified manner of early Georgian days, some of the finest work being in the frieze below the ceiling, where delicately modelled masks are connected by garlanded swags.

No other room approaches the saloon in decorative richness. But the Blue Parlour, lying east of the saloon, has, besides some nice work about chimneypiece and ceiling, two highly finished niches with shells in their half-domes (Fig. 6). Through the White Drawing-room, on the west side of the saloon, we reach the library (Fig. 7), an octagonally shaped room the decorative scheme of which indicates an early George III date for the building which it occupies.

Long before that time house and estate had passed to other hands. Sir Richard Hoare, in his South Wilts, tells us that it was held for a short time by his grandfather, who sold it to Fulke Greville in about 1740, and forty years later it was bought by a Mr. Bradshaw. At the opening of the nineteenth century it again changed hands, the new owner being, as Sir Richard mentions, his "late worthy friend Sir Charles Malet." With him and his descendants it remained till recently, but was purchased half a dozen years ago by Major Despencer-Robertson, recently elected M.P. for Salisbury, who has done much to renovate the house and gardens, while retaining and giving value to all that time and changes had left of the seat "invented and built" by William Papears. invented and built" by William Benson.

H. AVRAY TIPPING

"OLD COLE

The Blecheley Diary of the Rev. William Cole, 1765-1767. Edited from the original MS. by F. G. Stokes, with an Introduction by Helen Waddell. (Constable, 16s.)

HEN the first volume of William Cole's Journal was published a year ago, Mr. Stokes, his editor, promised us a second instalment later, and he now earns our gratitude for not having kept us waiting too long. Cole is back again in his country parish, too long.

Cole is back again in his country parish
and those who found themselves baulked by the old parson
inveterate passion for sight-seeing and "taking inscriptions may take courage for a second try now that he is removed from the temptation of turning his diary into a guide-book. Not that the Paris Journal was entirely filled up with "antiquities"; but when there was so much richer treasure lying about between the tombs and churches, it was a little provoking to have to go digging for it, as it were, with a spade. "Stuff and Trash" were the words which Cole, with remarkable detachment, once used to describe his precious manuscript collections, and Cole himself would have been the last person in the world to imagine that his journals could be of sufficient interest ever to merit publishing.

journals could be of sufficient interest ever to merit publishing.

The Paris Journal left this elderly and massive clergyman laid up at Dover, after an accident to his leg which he met with while disembarking from the packet. He is now sufficiently recovered to return by coach to Bletchley (or Blecheley, as he always writes it), bearing the long journey "as well as if nothing had happened." His arrival is greated with appropriate correspond. always writes it), bearing the long journey "as well as if nothing had happened." His arrival is greeted with appropriate ceremony: it is King Cole returning to his little realm. And so "the Ringers did me the Honour to ring the Bells on my Arrival, & they all 8 came into the Kitchin & drank as much as they pleased in Reason & Sobriety." The next few days are taken up with the transaction & Sobriety." The next few days are taken up with the transaction of necessary business—the farmers come to pay their tithes, Mr. Cole is pressed to serve again as the Surveyor of the Parish Roads—and then life settles down into the old easy pace at which it has ambled for thirteen years, ever since Mr. Browne Willis offered (with none too good a grace) this Buckinghamshire living the big follow-prignary.

offered (with none too good a grace) this Buckinghamshire living to his fellow-antiquary.

Miss Helen Waddell once again introduces us to the diary with an essay, even more brilliant, if that were possible, than her last. With delightful humour and an amazing dexterity, which almost blinds us to the underlying erudition, she re-creates the scenes and the characters that constituted Cole's world. It is, as she does not fail to observe, a Jane Austen world, in which tea-drinking and visiting neighbours, parlour interiors, gardening and "improvements" to the parsonage form the staple diet. The persons who walk in and out of his pages are full and rounded characters, and for this reason the Diary has much more than a mere historical or antiquarian interest. Thanks to Cole's gift of summing up character in unconsciously vivid phrases, we come to know and love each one of his acquaintances, whether parsons, parsons' wives, parishioners or servants. He also enables us to

form a complete picture of the rectory and its garden, with the Hermitage in one corner and "an elegant light and airy Chinese and Gothic Temple" in another.

Of the more important dramatis personæ Miss Waddell supplies for our convenience an engaging series of thumbnail sketches. There is "my neighbour, Mr. Hanmer of Simpson," or Simpson Place, as he prefers to call it; Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin of Loughton, whose goings-on are the talk of the countryside; Mrs. Barton, "with whom Mr. Cole is on terms of elephantine gallantry," and her husband, in Cole's words, "a Big and Formal Solemn Fellow." Poor, anxious Mrs. Willis, daughter-in-law to the irascible Browne Willis, now deceased, lives close by at Water Hall. She has for long been deeply involved in money troubles, until, just as she is dying, a miracle happens and her boy Water Hall. She has for long been deeply involved in money troubles, until, just as she is dying, a miracle happens and her boy John finds himself master of a large estate and the surname of Fleming. Humbler but not less important persons are Tom, "my Tom," Mr. Cole's trusty man; his brother Jim, much cudgelled for idleness and dissipation, and their father, the parish clerk, "a quiet good-tempered man with no fault but drunkenness." Drunkenness is also the failing of Tansley, the gardener, especially when he is "in his Hay-Time & Harvest Airs." Last, but not least, must be included "my favourite little Dun fat horse"—"the only creature in Blecheley," as Miss Waddell remarks, "for whom Mr. Cole felt something approaching passion."

As all these people move about their daily affairs, and time As all these people move about their daily affairs, and time slides past almost imperceptibly, there seems no reason why there should ever be an end. But an end there is, and Mr. Cole accepts it with a grim humour typical of the man. When Browne Willis, known to all the neighbourhood as "the Dragon of Whaddon," had presented Cole to Bletchley he had prudently reserved for his grandson the right to the living, if he should ever want it. Though the old man is no longer alive to disturb the peace of the country side, and Cole is persuaded on legal authority that there is no the old man is no longer alive to disturb the peace of the country-side, and Cole is persuaded on legal authority that there is no obligation for him to resign, he yet feels bound to do so "out of an honourable Principle." And so, when Tom Willis, in the autumn of 1767, is old enough to take Orders, Cole has to prepare to quit his pleasant parsonage. There is something Chinese, as Miss Waddell remarks, in the wise passivity with which Cole accepts the situation. "You are the only real philosopher I know," Horace Walpole once wrote to him. The end of this second chapter of the Diary—fortunately, there is still a third to come—is best given in Miss Waddell's own charming close:

The Rectory is empty: for Mr. Cole has kept his word to a dead man, and has moved to the tumble-down parsonage at Waterbeach, with Tom

and has moved to the tumble-down parsonage at Waterbeach, with Tom and Molly and the 2 Cats and the 2 Blackbirds and the Chinese Sow and the 5 Bantam Chickens, all in a cart together. Late in the year as it is, he has pricked in the Crocuses and Jonquils and Snowdrops in the neglected garden; and he thanks God for his Mercies of last year, and puts so on the Shelves upstairs,



A FOURTEEN INCH PACK

THE ART OF BEAGLING

The Art of Beagling, by Captain J. Otho Paget. (Witherby, 10s. 6d.) IT is claimed for many occupations that their experts are born and not made, and probably the brilliant huntsman, with any type of pack, owes as much as anyone to his natural gifts. Hunting a pack of hounds is, indeed, an art; but beagling—which is, strictly speaking, the mere following of beagles—is surely not an art (despite the title under review) but a science. It is because it is a science that its elementary principles can be committed to paper for the benefit of the uninitiated—a task here most ably to paper for the benefit of the uninitiated—a task here most ably performed by a very well known Master of Beagles. Captain Otho Paget, once the official scribe to the speediest fox-hunting countries in the kingdom, has given ample proof that his passion is not for pace but for houndwork. For his beagling has been quite as enthusiastic as his fox hunting, and his mastership of the Thorpe Satchville Beagles has displayed his exceptional talent for breeding and for handling hounds. He is indeed a stout the Thorpe Satchville Beagles has displayed his exceptional talent for breeding and for handling hounds. He is, indeed, a stout supporter of the small, fourteen-inch beagle as opposed to the larger and faster type. But although he himself has turned from foxhounds to beagles, the aspiring huntsman usually climbs past beagles to foxhounds, and the logical connection between the two might, perhaps, have been more carefully stressed by Captain Paget. For fox hunting and hare hunting are founded on exactly

Paget. For fox hunting and hare hunting are founded on exactly the same principles, and much of the organisation and routine work are identical. But the pace—which puts the spice into fox hunting and, incidentally, makes it so exacting for the officials, who have not only to ride but also to think at top speed—slurs over much of the technical detail. This detail cannot be appreciated except in the hunting field, and certainly cannot be expressed in print, but it is revealed by beagling as if by a slow motion film. So Captain Paget, in this comprehensive volume, which deals with prehensive volume, which deals with every aspect of the keeping of beagles and the hunting of hares, performs a great service in teaching how to learn. No one can learn to hunt the hare from a book, but he may learn more easily with a book, and, having gradeasily with a book, and, he was a uated in the science of beagling, he may be inspired to become an artist in hunting hounds. M. F.

THE ART OF THE SCRIVENER THE ART OF THE SCRIVENER
The English Writing Masters and
their Copy Books, 1570-1800.
A biographical dictionary and a bibliography, by Ambrose Heal. (Cambridge University Press, 5 guineas.)
IN an appeal to educational authorities to develop the "wisdom of the
hand," Sir William Rothenstein insisted that "there is something about
the human hand which is intuitive sisted that "there is something about the human hand which is intuitive and which, I believe, obeys instinctively the great laws of the universe, which we cannot understand." To leave this out of education was, he said, to miss something extremely important. Sir William was particularly referring to various types of handcraft. But, looking at Mr. Heal's sumptuous volume, illustrated with nearly a hundred examples of the scrivener's art, it is brought home to one how writing has fallen from being "a wisdom of the hand" to a wholly mechanised operation. Handwriting is generally recognised as an index of character. Is it not possible that it is also capable of character formation, as much as other arts of the hand? It is, no doubt, the artistry displayed by the old writing masters that has attracted Mr. Ambrose Heal into collecting their rare copybooks and eruditely recording details of their lives. The artist in him is attracted by these crabbed craftsmen. One of the main sources of knowledge on writing masters is Samuel Pepys' "Calligraphical Collection"—yet another instance of the diarist's indomitable curosity. At the beginning of the period under review, writing masters retained something of the pretensions of mediaval scholiasts. In 1595 was held in London "a joust of Goose quills," as Disraeli called it, a Tournament for the Golden Pen. In a scholarly introduction on the development of English handwriting Mr. Stanley Morison traces how, although the early writing masters themselves recognised their inferiority to Continental practitioners, yet they developed the speedy cursive English hand which expanding commerce gradually imposed all over Europe, making English copperplate the accepted mode. Obviously, Mr. Heal's book is a labour of love. Only 300 copies are published, and only 180 are for general sale. As the first account for two centuries of our native penmen the book has a real, if limited, importance, and it could not have been better done.

Shadows on the Rock, by Willa Cather.

(Cassell, 7s. 6d) sumptuous volume, illustrated with nearly a hundred examples

Shadows on the Rock, by Willa Cather,

better done.

Shadows on the Rock, by Willa Cather. (Cassell, 7s. 6d)

I SUPPOSE that Miss Willa Cather's particular contribution to literature has been the creation of beauty, beauty of a special kind, informing the lives of men and women, the colours of plain and mountain, the things of every-day use; a spiritual beauty removed above life as an autumn nist is above a river, and yet its essence; if not the cure of life's ills, the answer in some unknown tongue to its questionings. She would perhaps prefer that I should not credit her with the creation of that beauty, but with having recorded it; yet her exquisite use of her medium, the English language, has a part in the miracle. Shadons on the Rock of Quebec at the end of the seventeenth century as it looked seen through the eyes of a little girl, daughter of Euclide Auclair, apothecary to the Count de Frontenac, Governor of Canada for King Louis of France. The simple, lovely details of Cécile's life, her friendship with the old Bishop de Laval, with the tender-hearted, violent pioneer Pierre Charron; with little Jacques Gaux, son of a loose woman of the town; the scents and sights and sounds of Old Quebec in winter, summer and, best of all, in autumn: Miss Cather has, as it were, gathered in her heard to make a present of them to her readers. The limits Miss Cather has set herself here seem narrower than those of "De at h Comes to the Archbishop," but, within them, she is no less successful in what she has set out to do. Brenda E. Spender.



A WRITING MASTER'S TRADE CARD The English Writing Masters'

A MODERN COUNTRY INN



The new building (Kenneth Dalgliesh, Architect) The old building "THE WOODMAN," ON THE BEXLEY ROAD AT BLACKFEN, KENT

HERE is a nice distinction between the "public-house" and the "pub." The former term conjures up a picture of that rather sordid place associated with drinking for drinking's sake, whereas the latter suggests a more homely, convivial estab-

convival estab-lishment where people drop in for refreshment and a friendly talk. This is especially the case with the country "pub" or inn—a favoured meet-ing-place for the local inhabitants, and equally a hospitable house of call a nospitable nouse of call for the passer-by or traveller. The inn thus serves a definite want of everyday life, and it needs to be free from those tampering restrictions that are sponsored in the recent Report of the Royal Commission on Licensing. To quote Dr. Johnson: "There is no-Jonnson: "There is no-thing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn."

Whatever may be thought of this from the social point of view, everyone will agree that

any new buildings should be satisfying architecturally, and not defacements on our country roads. Fortunately, in recent years certain enlightened brewers have been well advised to put their new buildings into the hands of competent architects with a right sense of design.

A good example of this is offered by "The Woodman" on the Bexley Road at Blackfen in Kent.

The existing building was of nineteenth century date, homely enough, but possessing no architectural distinction, and I think no one will regret

its demolition and super-cession by the admirable cession by the admirable new building which has been designed by Mr. Kenneth Dalgliesh. Certain definite ideas dictated the design, both in plan and elevation. It was desired that the park building about the provent building about the pr It was desired that the new building should suggest a link with the past, and instead of being in one style it is in several. One object in doing this was to differentiate its several parts, but, as will be seen from the illustrations on this page, Mr. Dalgliesh has successfully attained a pleasing variety and not a mere mixture of design.

Its brickwork and

Its brickwork and half-timberwork are alike sound and constructional, and its roofs are covered with old tiles that came from some almshouses in the Eltham High Street.



THE SALOON BAR

With a wide ingle fireplace, it is an interesting example of half-timbering



been bracketed to the walls, and are used for flood-lighting the exterior—a provision which is especially useful in foggy weather; and a detail of interest is the sign in wrought iron depicting a woodman felling a tree, supported on an oak post and cross-bar.

DINING-HALL

TAP-ROOM

Outside, the three bars are so differentiated that nobody can mistake one for the other. The saloon bar, with its half-timbering, is clearly demarcated from the public bar, which is weatherboarded, while the taproom has cream, slurry-covered brickwork and a pantile roof. This distinction is continued inside. The saloon bar, with its oak beams and posts, tenoned and secured with wood pegs, is provided with tables of is provided with tables of Cromwellian type and hospitable oak ingle-seats. In the public bar the furniture suggests an eighteenth century origin; while in the tap-room it was felt that trestle tables and plain, simple chairs were most appropriate. fitments are also different in each room. In the wrought-iron electric candle-brackets are used; in the content of th

The lighting wrought-iron electric candle-brackets are used; in the dining-hall, pendent oak coronas; in the public bar, Georgian candle-brackets; and in the tap-room, old-fashioned oil lamps converted for electric light.

From a practical point of view, the most important feature of the ground floor is the arrangement whereby the landlord can superintend each of the three bars, by walking to and fro a distance of some twenty feet. This arrangement will be more readily appreciated from a study of the plan. It will be seen that each bar is entirely separated from the others, no bar overlooks another, wet all are accessible to the landlord who also can visit both the yet all are accessible to the landlord, who also can visit both the parlour and the kitchen in a few moments. The largest room downstairs is the dining-hall. In character it is simple, light

and airy, with walls distempered (there is no plaster downstairs, all the walls having been built with a perfectly smooth face and distempered a parchment tone, which is practical and in keeping with the old character of the

house).
An off-licence separates the public bar from the tap-room, and a staircase of brick and oak leads directly from the entrance hall to the first floor, where there are six bedrooms and bathrooms.

GROUND FLOR erected at a position somewhat farther back from the roadway than that occupied by the old one. This enabled the old "Woodman" to remain open until its successor was completed. Not till then was demolition begun and now that the now is completed with the now is completed.

until its successor was completed. Not till then was demolition begun, and now that the new inn is complete and the roadway made good, there is a spacious draw-in before the bar entrances. On the north front also there is an abundant parking space, so that liberal provision has been made for cars and chars-à-bancs. It is interesting to note that the building has been "signed" by those who were responsible for its construction. In the flank wall of the saloon bar are two square blocks of stone, one bearing the inscription "P.H.W. 1931," and the other "J.H. 1931." The former is an intimation to posterity that their thanks for this inn are due to Mr. P. H. Waistell, Managing Director of Reffells Bexley Brewery, Limited, and the latter commemorates Mr. J. Harvey, licensee of the old house for seventeen years. Finally, on the front of the building is a third stone with the legend "K.D. Archt. 1931."

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

P to date the winter has been particularly mild and open. This has enabled considerable progress to be made with work on arable farms. The prospects of some improvement in wheat prices after next harvest some improvement in wheat prices after next harvest have caused many agriculturists to extend their wheat acreage. This will probably be at the expense of the other cereal crops. It is, however, a very doubtful policy whether it will pay to neglect the growing of crops like barley and oats. Winter-sown crops in most cases have made good progress, the mild weather having done much to secure the establishment of a good plant. Quite a feature of the winter has been the growth of grass on pasture land. Old farmers assert that this is always a bad sign for the attainment of maximum productivity during the following grazing season. Whether this is actually the case is a little doubtful. It is probably not so serious on land adequately fertilised and maintained in good heart. Nevertheless the idea that grassland needs a rest from growth has a very wide following. fertilised and maintained in good heart. Nevertheless the idea that grassland needs a rest from growth has a very wide following. Young grass and clover "seeds" are generally in a healthy condition, which speaks well for good hay crops in the summer. There is, however, many a slip even in the farming forecasts, and in this case seasonal rainfall at the right moment means much. One result of the mild winter has been that stored food supplies have not been heavily drawn upon, and out-wintered stock have done well. The mild weather has helped dairy farmers to maintain milk yields at a satisfactory level, while the milk shortage which was so pronounced two months ago has been made good. The trade for dairy cows is therefore not so good. Prices for fat cattle show an appreciating tendency, which is also true for fat cattle show an appreciating tendency, which is also true of pork and bacon pigs. Store pigs, too, are meeting with an improved trade. Egg prices have slumped very badly, and

some are beginning to wonder whether the poultry industry is on the verge of experiencing a period of depression. It is a remark able fact that agricultural prosperity in this country is determined by world prices of food products, and the steps which are being taken to revive the industry are all too slow in being put into application. There is an urgent need for the speeding up of measures designed to help the struggling agriculturist, for the situation at the moment is as black as it ever has been, with one or two notable exceptions.

NITRO-CHALK

One of the most recently introduced synthetic nitrogenous manures produced by Imperial Chemical Industries at their Billingham works promises to play an important part in fertiliser practice in this country. Nitro-chalk consists of a mixture of ammonia nitrate and finely precipitated chalk. Thus half the nitrogen is present in the nitric condition and half in the form of ammonia. Associated with the manure is a quantity of chalk sufficient to enable the ammonia content of the manure to be converted into nitrate without impoverishing the lime reserves in the soil. Its total nitrogen content is 15½ per cent., and thus converted into nitrate without impoverishing the lime reserves in the soil. Its total nitrogen content is 15½ per cent., and thus it can be regarded as an equivalent competitor with nitrate of soda, though it is impossible to compare the two manures apart from total nitrogen content. The purposes for which the manure is suitable are similar, however. Thus it is valuable for top-dressings to cereals and root crops, while it is now being extensively used for spring and summer applications to grassland where intensive manuring and rotational grazing are being followed. Where the soil possesses a deficiency of lime, it is definitely superior as a manure to the well known sulphate of ammonia. as a manure to the well known sulphate of ammonia



FOLLOWING THE FURROW

CORRESPONDENCE

WELSH HOUNDS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The extremely interesting article in COUNTRY LIFE."

COUNTRY LIFE of January 16th on Lady Curre's Hounds has suggested to me that the following story of the doings of Welsh hounds may interest you.

In the autumn of 1910 I was at home on leave from Peshawar. One day very late in October I received a cable from the Master of the Peshawar Vale Hunt asking me to buy for him as many hounds as possible up to twenty couple, as he had had to destroy the whole pack, owing to rabies in the kennels. I got to work at once in every quarter I could think of, but at that date in the year there was not a hound to be had that was worth the cost of its passage to India. I was getting pretty desperate when I saw a notice that the lsle of Wight Harriers were to be sold by auction as a pack at Aldridge's. I ascertained that these harriers were of the Welsh hound type and on the small side even for harriers. Then I had a difficult problem. To send out such hounds to start almost at once to hunt jackal in the Peshawar Vale, with its big ditch and bank country and huge areas of dense, stiff sugar-cane coverts to draw, and with, at best, no more than a couple or two of experienced hounds to show them the new game, seemed almost madness. There was no time to refer to Peshawar for advice. If the hounds proved useless I should have made myself responsible for wasting the whole of the funds of a far from wealthy Hunt.

I was fortunate in having access to the advice of a really good hound man, with a special knowledge of and belief in the old Welsh breed. He urged me to take the risk. What finally turned the scale was the beautiful sound feet these harriers had. When I saw that—the primary quality for hounds that are to stand up to the conditions in India—and learnt something of their reputation for close hunting, I decided to put in an appearance at the auction. I bought the whole pack, passed on the bitches to the only other serious bidder, as the Master of the Peshawar Vale wanted dogs only, and sent out some fifteen couple of dog hounds.

I got back to Peshawar a few weeks after these hounds and arrived. The chorus of scathing and abusive criticism was still ringing in the air, but my life was given a temporary reprieve as the Mas

hound stock.

The Peshawar Vale Hounds have an unbroken but chequered history of well over fifty years, and it was the light-coloured Welsh hound that saved the pack from temporary eclipse in one of its crises.—J. M. EWART.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S EPITAPH

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE.

SIR,-I was more than interested in the letter you published concerning Benjamin Franklin's epitaph in your issue of January 2nd. In 1921 we were staying at Lowestoft, and straying one day in the churchyard of St. Margaret's—the beautiful old parish church—came across a tombstone in excellent condition with the following inscription, which is practically word for word the same as Franklin's:

The Body of Lewis Webb, Schoolmaster.
Like the cover of an old Book its contents worn out and stript of its
Lettering and Gilding
Lies here food for the worms yet the work shall not be lost
For it shall (as he believed)
Appear once more in a new and most beautiful Edition
Corrected and revised by

The Loving husband of Judith Webb Who died March 29th, 1790 aged 38 years

Also three of their children.

Also three of their children. What I should like to know is, did the epitaph of Benjamin Franklin come from the same source as that of Lewis Webb? There is only one month's difference between the two deaths—the year being exactly the same. Perhaps this was a popular epitaph of the day for scholarly people?—J. G. HOHNE.

THE CHILLINGHAM CATTLE TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE.

SIR,—Lord Tankerville's decision to let Chilling-ham Castle, his ancestral seat in the Cheviots, owing to the heavy burden of death duties

FAIRY STORIES ABOUT BIRDS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

FAIRY STORIES ABOUT BIRDS
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I was interested to read your correspondent's letter concerning the modern belief in the ancient story of the cuckoo turning into a sparrowhawk in winter, for I also know many people who believe it to be true, as well as the equally ancient one about swallows hibernating under water. Many of these ancient beliefs were first published by Aristotla about 400 B.C., cribbed by the Roman naturalist Pliny in the early days of the Christian era, cribbed again about the middle of the sixteenth century by Archbishop Magnus of Upsala, and yet again by writers in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and even down to the present day. But so-called nature writers of the present day are also inventing fairy stories about birds. One such, by one whose name is almost a household word, only about three years ago, while writing on the swift, said that it slept on the wing at night. Another, having discovered the parasites upon the house martin, made the astonishing statement that the birds carried these fleas upon them to sustain them during their migratory flight. Both these are fairy yarns, yet, such being the familiarity of the writers names in the Press, they have been already cribbed as facts by other writers of nature books, so-called. These fleas were discovered by the great Linnæus, who named them after the swallow, which evidently goes to prove that even he did not know a swallow from a house martin. I have handled over 3,000 young



LORD TANKERVILLE'S FAMOUS HERD

he has been called upon to face, naturally gives rise to speculations about the future owner-ship of the famous herd of white cattle which roam wild through the park. The breed is the unique representative of Bos scoticus, whose descendants have been preserved for centuries the unique representative of Bos scoticus, whose descendants have been preserved for centuries at Chillingham by in-breeding. In an account book of William Taylor, steward of Chillingham in 1682, there is the following entry: "Beasts in ye Parke, my Lord's—16 white wilde beasts, 2 black steeres and a quy, 12 white read and black eard, 5 blacke oxen and browne one, 2 oxen from Wark June last." The best description of the herd is that given by the Northumbrian agriculturist, George Cully, in his Observations on Life Stock published in 1786. "At the first appearance of any person they set off in full gallop, and, at the distance of about two hundred yards, make a wheel round and come boldly up again, tossing their heads in a menacing manner. . . When the cows calve they hide their calves for a week or ten days in some sequestered situation, and go and suckle them two or three times a day. If any person come near the calves they clap their heads close to the ground and lie like a hare in a form to hide themselves." The dispersal of these famous cattle is not to be thought of, and it has been suggested that the herd may at some future date be taken over by the National Trust, remaining, of course, of course herd may at some future date be taken over by the National Trust, remaining, of course, in their natural surroundings.—S. O. A.

swallows and never found them upon that bird, yet all the 126 house martins handled carried them. Nearly all children in Council schools are told that the wren is a female robin. These are only a few of the howlers invented at the present day as facts by people who are supposed to know about what they are writing and speaking. Even the scientific ornithologists are not free from criticism, for only in the current issue of a well known illustrated weekly a well known scientist states that the eye of the adult hawfinch is milky white: whereas it is blood red in life, as I have more than once pointed out in the scientific Press, and only white in death or when badly frightened. A visit to a cage-bird show, where hawfinches are often seen, would have shown him his error.—H. W. ROBINSON. are often seen, would herror.—H. W. ROBINSON.

OLD CARS AND FARM MACHINERY

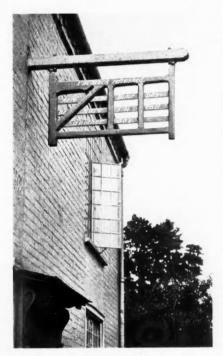
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,-Can any of your readers advise me whether SIR,—Can any of your readers advise me whether it is possible, in any way, to use, economically, a small car to run a circular-saw, chaff-cutter cake-kibbler, etc.? At the present moment I have a 9 h.p. car which, though in perfect working condition, has very small sale value because of its age. If it were possible to use this car to drive farm machinery occasionally it could be very helpful. It could be driven from building to building when, after one of the road wheels had been replaced by the spare (minus tyre and plus belting), the driving wheels could be jacked up and the front wheels blocked, thus enabling quite useful, though infrequent, work in places where it is not worth while to install a stationary engine. Perhaps the general idea is unworkable, but it is likely that some of your readers have experimented, and I shall value any information they can give me, as, I fancy, would others who possess cars that possibly need not be sacrificed.—P. HERBERT.

MILESTONES ON THE DOVER ROAD

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you a photograph of an amusing inn sign from East Kent. The inscription



"I'm much refreshed Here take your pay Be sure I'll call Another day

speaks for itself. The inn in question is about three miles from Canterbury, on the road to Dover.—Herbert Felton.

"AN EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY JOKE"
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—There is another slightly shorter version of Mr. Prescott's description of the gardener, which, I believe, is to be found in the New London Magazine for the year 1785, and is probably the original of George Martin's version. So the joke would appear to be an eighteenth century one at least.

There is a later nineteenth century joke of a botanical nature in the following extract from an article which

of a botanical nature from an article which appeared in the Pall Mall Gazette in 1865 from the pen of the immortal Calverley, entitled "Berries from the Tree of Knowledge":

"You may swear your sold back, Berry, but you have made a

yourself black, Berry, but you have made a mull, Berry. I paid your bill, Berry, as soon as due, Berry; as the young woman in the bar, Berry, and your father, the elder Berry, know. I don't care a straw, Berry, for a goose, Berry, like you, Berry; but I'll let folks know, Berry, that you've made yourself a regular ass, Berry, and whort'll Berry senior say?"

A. Shaw Mellor.

AN OLD ROOFED-IN WALL

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE,"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I know that you are interested in old garden walls. Here is a photograph of the roofed-in wall at Burnham Abbey, near Huntercombe on the road to Slough. The abbey is not very well known, but I always think that this is one of the most picturesque pieces of walling in any of our home counties. It may possibly be excelled in some in the out-of-the-way parts of Wiltshire, but it is a delightful wall.—H.

TO MAKE A WHIP

TO MAKE A WHIP SILLY BUBB

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR.—You may like to print this old recipe copied from an eighteenth century MS. notebook. The spelling is faithfully rendered.

"Take a pint of White Wine and half a pint of Sack & 3 Quarters of a Pound of Loaf Suggar finely Beaten & ye Juice of Lemmon put all thes in a deep Earthen pan stir them altogether & put to it the peel of one Lemmon and if you pleace a sprig of Rosemary to Give it a teast & so let them stand for Half and Hour yn put to it a quart of Sweet Cream & whip it wth a white Twig rod till ye Rod stande up right in it then take of your Froath as it rises put in your Silly Bubb Glasses and so whip it again untill it be all gone if you find it to thick you may put in 2 or 3 Spoonfuls of Wine in the whiping of it & yt will raise it again."—Nevile R. Wilkinson.

AN IRON NEST



will raise it again."—NEVILE R. WILKINSON.

AN IRON NEST

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—For about sixty years the birds New Zealanders call "magpies" have been acclimatised in the Dominion. Really these birds are not magpies at all, but are a black and white Australian crow-shrike whose scientific name is Gymnorhina leuconota. They are a true farmer's friend and are very popular as pets, for they are exceedingly quaint and intelligent and can be easily taught to whistle quite elaborate tunes and are natural mimics.

The nest in the photograph is a distinct curiosity, for it is built chiefly of wire! The builder, which belonged to Mr. C. Beken of Christchurch, was busily engaged for over a month in making it and, incidentally, made a great nuisance of herself in doing so. She used to haunt Mr. Beken's workshop and steal all the wire she could get hold of, not only picking up odd loose scraps, but actually flying up and tugging and hauling at coils that were hanging on the wall and pulling and twisting pieces off them. The whole of the outside of



AT BURNHAM ABBEY

the nest is made of wire, the inside being finished off with grass and small twigs and lined with wool which the magpie stole off a rug in Mrs. Beken's kitchen. The diameter of the nest Beken's kitchen. The diameter of the nest is about fifteen inches, and it weighs over three pounds. The thickest wire used is rather more than an eighth of an inch in diameter, but the bird managed to bend and weave even this with her strong beak.—W. W. Dunsterville.

HISTORY IN PICTURES
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—In a recent number of Country Life there were some pictures reproduced from Mr. Bott's book, called Our Fathers. These are taken from illustrated newspapers of the period, 1870–1900, and represent social life Mr. Bott's book, called Oll Falmers. These are taken from illustrated newspapers of the period, 1870–1900, and represent social life as it appeared to the black-and-white artists of the day. I saw many of these scenes, and, except the old-fashioned costumes, nothing in the pictures recalls the memories of my youth. I watched the late Lord Balfour playing golf in 1890, and I must say that, so far as I recollect, he did not look at all like the golfer in the picture. I also watched young women playing hockey forty years ago, but I never saw twelve forwards, in long skirts and sailor hats, sweeping in level formation down the field. The Victorian woman in pictures of this kind looks quite incapable of playing active games, or, indeed, of any rapid movement at all. This makes it all the more curious that, when I saw Miss Dod, the lady lawn tennis champion in 1889, I should have been impressed with her speed about the court, as well as with the way she hit the ball.

Either my

Either my memory or the draughtsmanship of the illustrators must much at fault. One wonders, if the newspapers of to-day gave up photo-graphy, whether modern artists would modern artists would be more successful in their efforts to show to later generations how Mr. Jones plays golf, or Miss Wills plays lawn tennis. Photography seldom seems to me effective in suggesting the movement and activity of a game, and I should ment and activity of a game, and I should have thought that in some ways the artist had the ad-vantage in this respect.—ALFRED respect, — COCHRANE.



THE CROW-SHRIKE AND ITS NEST OF WIRE

A VILLAGE BLACKSMITH'S LORE

A VILLAGE BLACKSMITH'S LORE TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—There has been much correspondence lately about the grey squirrel. It was from a village blacksmith in Gloucestershire that I learned the method of how the foreign grey squirrel ousts our native red from woodland after woodland. Though the gay red's tenure of the woodlands is being foreclosed in area after area throughout England, I had never been able to gather why our own Scaramouch. In russet always gives way to the alien. Well, my knowledgeable friend told me, "he guz worriting and worriting and worriting of the little red bwooy until like a stoat to a rabbit he worrits the life out of he and he gives he no peace at all. And that be the manner of his passing."

his passing."

His practical knowledge of country affairs is encyclopædic and he knows as much about horseflesh as a centaur. He once told me that the only way to make that mysterious animal, the donkey—or "buzzock" as he is often called in Gloucestershire—duly submissive to

the human will was to give him half an ounce of tobacco to chew at the start of the journey and half a pint of Guinness at the end. If you follow this prescription, he said, not the most obdurate donkey but will yield

the most obdutate donkey but will yield to it.

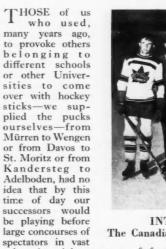
He reads the signs and prognostications of the weather just as oracularly. They do not by any means depend upon old wives' tales handed down. If, he told me, the cows lying in the shade of a clump of trees on a hot summer's day rise up and walk away, it is going to be mackintosh weather. If, again, the leaves on the ground scamper round in puppy-like circles, the boughs whence they came bend one way and the clouds sail in the contrary direction, the skies will fall on the morrow.

On agricultural matters he was just as perspicuous. To-day in agriculture, he said, the labour of men, horses and machines exceeds in expenditure the price obtained for the grain and the straw. Much of the wheat is eaten by the pigs and the poultry. He told me of one local farmer who found it cheaper to buy

Russian oats than grow and cut and thrash them on his own land, and so had restocked it with the sheep that once grazed it. His dry, sly, sedately ironical humour relishes a good tale. A sower, he told, went forth to sow, but no seed fell either upon the tilth nor upon the wayside nor upon stony ground, no seed at all. The farmer wondered to see such sowing of seeds, but was comforted with the remark that it would "stop they crows from a-picken of them up." This is a good example of the odd, reversed Gloucestershire logic.—H. J. Massingham.

CARBOLIC SOAP AS A DAINTY
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—Carbolic soap, whatever its value for
external use, is not, one would imagine, of
any great merit as an article of diet. Some
creatures, however, appear to think otherwise.
I have known both robins and rats which,
under no special stress of famine, have partaken
of it regularly and without injury to their
digestions!—Tavistock.

COUNTRY WORLD THE



spectators in vast urban ice rinks a game of fearful and ferocious strenuousness which was the legitimate offspring of our own and, no doubt, of the game which was played on the Zuyder Zee in the days of Avercamp. But ice hockey is now a "world sport," and the Canadian teams have been "world champions" from the beginning until now. This year England had high hopes of defeating them in the match that took place at Grosvenor House on Monday. But their expectations were defeated, and the Canadians had an easy victory by the Canadians had an easy victory by seven goals to none. Let us hope for better luck at Birmingham and Richmond.

FROM a playing point of view, our lawn tennis has lately taken a most cheerful



SIR LEONARD LYLE



INTERNATIONAL ICE HOCKEY AT GROSVENOR HOUSE The Canadian team with the English team whom they defeated seven goals to nil

upward bound, but politically it has been going through some rather difficult times owing to strong differences of opinion. It is, therefore, welcome news that Sir Leonard Lyle is to take on the chairmanship of the Lawn Tennis Association. A business man of wide experience, a good player—for he has played for England—a popular and commanding personality—he should commend himself to all parties and do much good work for the game.

THE proud THE proud reputation which St. Thomas's holds to-day as one of the great hospitals of the world is in no small great hospitals of the world is in no small measure due to the guidance and devoted service of the Duke of Connaught, who on Monday reached the jubilee of his election as President. The six sister buildings on the Thames Embankment have become such an integral part of London that it is difficult to realise how comparatively young they really are. they really are. But when the duke accepted the Green Staff of a governor, the "new" St. Thomas's had been opened less than twelve years. From that time to this it has gone from strength to strength, always increasing in size and in efficiency. And at each step in its growth the duke has played a truly presidential part in promoting appeals and forwarding the hospital's great work.

THE weather during the greater part of the stalking season of 1931 was extremely good, though a good many forests suffered from unsuitable winds. Heads, however, were almost uniformly bad, a fact for which the conditions prevailing in the earlier part of the year were largely responsible. In very few forests was anything like a first-class trophy killed. Certainly the fnost attractive, and in some was anything like a lift-class trophy killed. Certainly the most attractive, and in some respects the best, was the royal shot by Mr. J. R. Rosher at Cozac in Glen Cannich. Mr. Young killed a good royal, with thick, strong horn, at Glenfinnan, and, in addition, a good ten-pointer. The most striking

feature of the season was a group of heads from Captain Combe's forest, Strath-conon. They included a thirteenpointer, shot by Colonel Combe, and two royals, three ten and a three ten and a nine pointer, shot by Captain Combe himself. These heads all measured well and were characterised by very good quality of horn. Mr. Morrison killed a nice eleven-pointer in Islay, but beyond that there

were very few heads worth mentioning. A good many forests were unlet, and if present financial considerations do not improve, it looks as though a similar state of affairs will prevail in 1932. The season was much interfered with owing to the Parliamentary crisis, as many owners and tenants had to return to London. Though this has nothing to do with the fact that it was one of the worst seasons for heads for the past thirty-five years, those stalkers who wisely contented themselves with really bad heads and poor stags will reap the benefit later on, as heads which were poor this last season may quite well throw out good horns when conditions are favourable and they have been given time in which to reach their prime.



THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

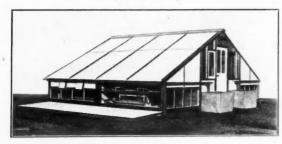
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EASTER

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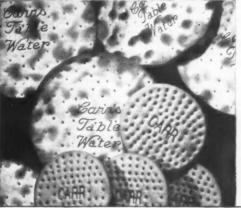
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THE ESTATE MARKET CHILLINGHAM CASTLE

THE proposed letting of Chillingham Castle, by the Earl of Tankerville, through Messrs. Knight through Frank and Rutley, an-nounced a week ago in the Estate Market Estate Market page, recalls the description and illustrations in COUNTRY LIFE (Vol. XXXIII, (Vol. XXXIII, page 346) and the references by the late Mr. Anderson Graham to this famous pro-perty. In his perty. In his Northumbria volume of "Highways and Daways," the Byways," the late Editor of COUNTRY LIFE, h i m s e l f a Northumbrian, wrote lovingly wrote lovingly of what he called "the

called "the most romantic spot in the British Islands."
"As the Great North Road runs from Alnwick to the Scottish Border, a range of moor with craggy summits lies between it and the valley of the Till. From the top of the highest peak the view stretches from the Farne Islands and the sea far over the domed heads of the Cheviot Hills on the west. The summit of Roscastle looks down upon Chillingham across a wide stretch covered alternately with heather, woodland, high ferns west. The sammute rooms a wide stretch covered alternately with heather, woodland, high ferns and grass. The castle stands on the bank of the Chillingham burn, a grey quadrangle with towers of heavy masonry at the four corners. On the east is the burn, on the north the entrance gate, on the west an Italian garden covers the site of the jousting-ground, on the south a lawn is banked up above the former level of the ground floor. There was once a moat here, and the culvert which remains suggests that it circled the castle on all sides. Tudor builders who put Chillingham in 'measurable good reparaciouns' added corridors and built larger state rooms, but left the castle a place of defence." Since that period alteration has taken the form of adapting rather than of rebuilding; the result is that the old remains behind the new, and Chillingham is a house of secrets.

GOPSAL: 6,100 ACRES SOLD

THE late Sir Howard Frank, Bt., G.B.E., K.C.B., a few days before he passed away, carried out one of those transactions of the first magnitude with which his name will ever be associated. It was the introduction of a purchaser of over 6,100 acres of the Gopsal estate, Leicestershire, to Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. The sale includes two residential properties, twenty-nine dairying and other farms, the villages of Twycross, Congerstone and Shackerston, licensed houses, and 136 cottages apart from those on the farms, also the Congerstone Country Club, and a total rent roll of well over £10,000 a year.

"Under arrangements made prior to the death of Sir Howard Frank," Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley "have taken into partnership, as from January 1st, 1932, Mr. Cecil W. Ingram, F.S.I., who has been the manager of the Scottish business of the firm since 1913. Mr. Ingram was educated at Winchester and at Uckfield Agricultural College. He was for four years assistant to the Duke of Bedford's agent on the Woburn estate in Bedfordshire, and for some years was with his father, the late Mr. Walter F. Ingram, F.S.I., of Lewes. Subsequently he was in charge of the land agency department of Messrs. W. THE late Sir Howard Frank, Bt., G.B.E., K.C.B.

of Lewes. Subsequently he was in charge of the land agency department of Messrs. W. Brown and Co. of Tring. Mr. Ingram was elected a member of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution in 1901, having passed the professional examinations. After a short period in the offices at Hanover Square, he opened



CHILLINGHAM CASTLE: ENTRANCE FRONT

the firm's branch in Princes Street, Edinburgh, tne firm's branch in Princes Street, Edinburgh. Mr. Ingram was on active service abroad in the Royal Engineers from 1915 to 1919, in France, Egypt and Palestine, retiring with the rank of major, in command of the 220th Company Royal Engineers, and he was mentioned in despatches."

HAMPSHIRE TROUT FISHING

HAMPSHIRE TROUT FISHING SIR ALFRED YARROW has instructed Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices to sell Green Meadows, a modernised freehold old-fashioned mill house with 42 acres and a mile and a half of trout fishing in the Anton. The banks of the river are like the grounds of the house, notable for their bulbs.

The Herony, Whitchurch, Hampshire, for disposal by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., is an unexpired leasehold of eleven years, one of the smaller houses on Lady Portsmouth's Hurstbourne Priors estate. It is beautifully situated, with delightful views to the wooded hills of the park, on the banks of the Test, with excellent fishing rights in that famous river and in the Bourne, and facilities for shooting are available. It is not often that these small houses in this beautiful corner of Hampshire are available with such sporting. It is a perfect water for the dry fly, being exceptionally and the second of the properties of the second of the second of the properties of the second of the properties of the second of the properties of the properties of the second of the properties these small houses in this beautiful corner of Hampshire are available with such sporting. It is a perfect water for the dry fly, being exceptionally well stocked with fish running from about 1lb. up to 2lb. The rights comprise about three-quarters of a mile of exclusive fishing in the Test, with two rods on about another mile of the main stream and carriers, and three to four miles on the Bourne. This water affords splendid fishing throughout the season; 650 trout were caught by four rods this season.

Recent sales by Messrs. Thake and Paginton include Holly Farm, Bucklebury, 200 acres with house and buildings; Lower Bellmans, Checkendon, 4½ acres; The Orchards on Bucklebury Common; and twenty-six other properties, including Higheroft Farm, Melksham; and Eastbury House, Eastbury.

For a client, Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock have purchased, for residential purposes, Woodhill, near Oswestry, 100 acres. It stands in a park 600ft. above sea level, and commands magnificent views extending to The Wrekin. The firm has disposed of the interest in the lease of Wodards Close, an old manor house, near Bicester.

Country properties which have been reported sold by Messrs. Fox and Sons include: The Home Farm, 670 acres in Iwerne Minster, Dorset (with Messrs. Jolliffe, Flint and Co.);

The Home Farm, 670 acres in Iwerne Minster, Dorset (with Messrs. Jolliffe, Flint and Co.); Plaish House, Winkton, near Christchurch, 6 acres; and Scrivens, Chilton Candover, 6 acres; ar with 3 acres.

BUSINESS IN 1931

IN their report on 1931 Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff state that: "The residential market has been very hard hit. Some important

sales include the following residential estates: Sevenhampton Manor, Andoverford; Ashton House estate, Wiltshire; and Maidford, Malmesbury; and included in this total is also the sale of Windmill, Windmill, Cirencester, a property which has been turned over by the firm three times in ten months (twice by public auction), in each case to a private buyer who actually moved into possession. Our moved into possession. Our Northampton office have also successfully handled a number of medium-sized residences

residences in the Grafton, Bicester and Pytchley countries—notably Culworth House, Banbury; the Gate House, Syresham; and the Old Rectory, Guilsborough. The Timber Department has been very fully occupied with sales throughout the year, and approximately 800,000 cubic ft. of timber has been measured and sold in England, Wales and Ireland."

A SUBURBAN PLEASAUNCE

A SUBURBAN PLEASAUNCE
FOR those who, for one reason or another, are seeking an inexpensive house, one that has the advantage of abutting on an open space is specially worthy of consideration. In London the idea of such houses is mainly associated with Wimbledon and Hampstead. There are, however, here and there quiet oases, easy of reach from the City and West End, where first-rate residential facilities are obtainable on very moderate terms. Among them may be mentioned Wandsworth Common, originally part of the manor of Battersea. Along a quiet road, where there is no through traffic, an excellent long leasehold may be bought for £2,700, and the house is within fifteen minutes of Victoria! The agents are Messrs. John G. Dean and Co., Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices, and Messrs. Gordon Prior and Goodwin.

Messrs. John G. Dean and Co., Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices, and Messrs. Gordon Prior and Goodwin.

In their report on 1931, Messrs. Fox and Sons say (inter alia): "In all we have held sixty-five separate property auctions, comprising 738 lots, and fifty-three sales of furniture. Our total sale of freehold and leasehold property for the year has amounted to £900,000, against £775,000 in 1930."

The contents of Addington Park, near West Malling, will be sold on January 25th and following day for the executors of the late Mr. H. G. Aggs. The catalogue is of over 700 lots. Messrs. Hampton and Sons are the auctioneers. They report the sale, with Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., of Little Court, Chorley Wood, the country house of Lady Alexander and the late Sir George Alexander. Messrs. Hampton and Sons will sell the contents of the residence on January 27th and the following day. Both catalogues are rich in first-rate old and modern items.

Messrs. Foster announce an important sale

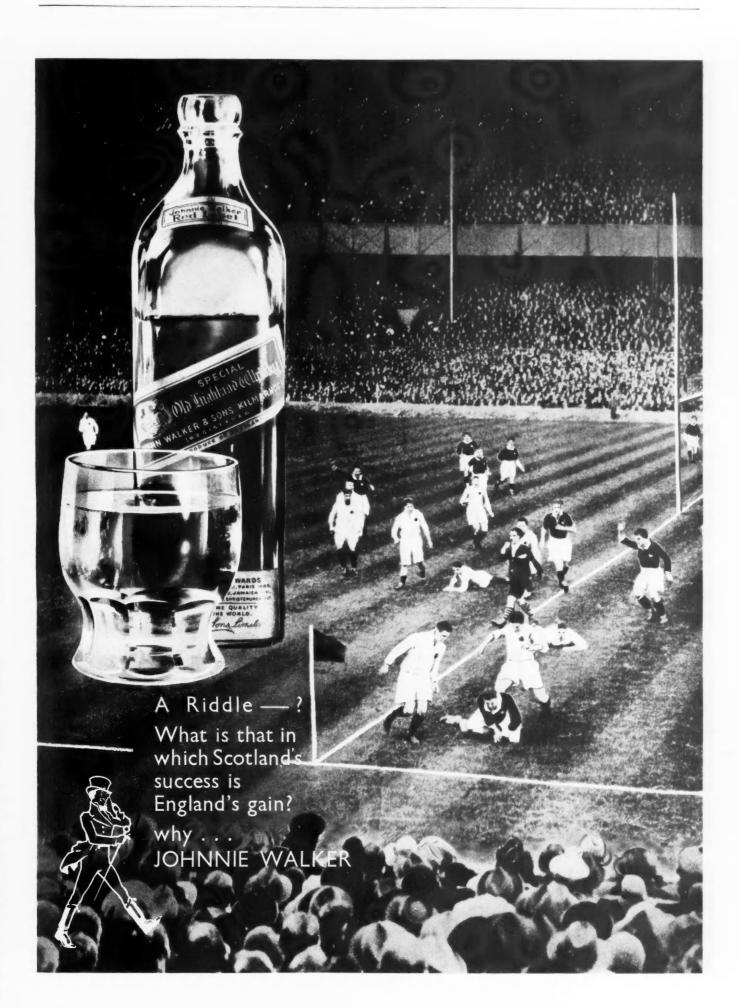
first-rate old and modern items.

Messrs. Foster announce an important sale of Benin bronzes, ivories and wood carvings at their gallery. 54, Pall Mall on January 28th.

Mynthurst, near Reigate, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Hewett and Lee, since the auction, and the area now disposed of is 1,450 acres.

Sales for £41,000 by Messrs. Geering and Colyer include Holíday House, Harrietsham, 85 acres; Manor Farm, Wormshill, a Georgian residence and 62 acres; Marwood and Honeypot Farm, Lympne, 180 acres; Quedley Farm, Flimwell, 200 acres; Scullsgate, Benenden, 79 acres; Poplar Farm, Wittersham, 40 acres; and Woodlands, Challock, 10 acres.

Arbiter.



THE EXHIBITION OF FRENCH ART

III.-MODERN PAINTERS

HERE have been many exhibitions of modern French art in recent years, but it is safe to say that so comprehensive a collection has never been seen before in London, and is not likely to be assembled again. The great leaders of the impressionist and post-impressionist movements are magnificently represented, almost to the exclusion of French official painting during the period. Particularly fine is the representation of the first and the last of the moderns included in the Exhibition, Manet and Gauguin, the former because of the quality and variety of the works shown, the latter because it is almost impossible to see his work in public collections. An assembly of no fewer than eight of his finest Tahitan scenes is, in itself, a reason for visiting the Exhibition

in public collections. An assembly of no fewer than eight of his finest Tahitan scenes is, in itself, a reason for visiting the Exhibition.

The general impression of the last rooms in the Academy is one of surprising diversity, and this, with the high quality and much more direct æsthetic appeal, makes them in every sense a fitting climax. The first nineteenth century artist to put painting before subject is Edouard Manet, the leader of the modern movement. He was preceded by Courbet, whose realism may have cleared the way for impressionism, but Courbet's larger works in the Exhibition are rather unpleasantly aggressive. His qualities as a painter appear only in his smaller studies, like the portrait of himself with a black dog (No. 387). Daumier has been too frequently classed with the post-impressionists, though his real place would seem to be with the masters who excelled in the study of character and dramatic situations. He gives richer, more Rembrandt-esque versions of scenes, such as Degas and Toulouse-Lautrec portrayed afterwards more objectively. The heaviness of his "Mountebanks Resting" (No. 410) is as suitable to the subject as the visionary appearance of his slightly sketched in "Don Quixote" (No. 376), or the storm-like procession of the "Emigrants" (No. 326).

to the subject as the visionary appearance of his slightly sketched in "Don Quixote" (No. 376), or the storm-like procession of the "Emigrants" (No. 326).

It was Manet who first concentrated on the purely visual appeal of painting, leaving out all consideration of subject and emotional associations. The astonishing evolution of his style is very apparent in the Exhibition. One of his earliest works, the portrait of his parents (No. 426), is painted with the traditional strong chiaroscuro, though it already shows his fine and original sense of colour in the use he makes of the blue ribands and coloured wools. The contrast between this and "Le Linge" (No. 428), painted in 1875, out of doors, in a sunlit garden, with blue shadows flitting across the washing in the background, is remarkable. At the same time there is nothing revolutionary in the change; his work is still in the great French tradition, and, in fact, the treatment of the child forms a distinct link with Chardin's "Reading Lesson" (No. 206).

in the change; his work is still in the great French tradition, and, in fact, the treatment of the child forms a distinct link with Chardin's "Reading Lesson" (No. 206).

Degas, known chiefly as a painter of dancers and racehorses, appears in an interesting light in the "Interior," in which a dramatic situation has been rendered, but not so that the story prevails over the painting of it. Very beautiful, too, are his portraits, and the superb pastel "La Toilette" (No. 942). Renoir, the



MANET: "LE BAR AUX FOLIES BERGERES" From Mr. Samuel Courtauld's collection



RENOIR: "LA LOGE." From Mr. Samuel Courtauld's collection



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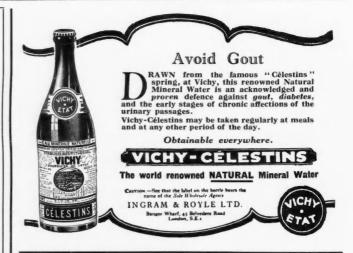
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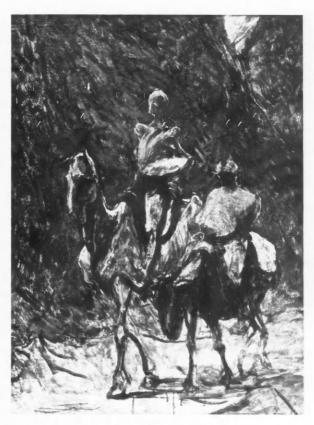


MANET: "LE LINGE" From Herr Paul Cassirer, Berlin

painter of charming women, does not appear to the best advantage in all the works included. The gradual increase of warmth in his colour will be apparent if a comparison is made between his fascinating silvery portrait of a "Little Girl" (No. 454), the wonderfully beautiful group "La Loge" (No. 415) and the "Pierrot Blanc" (No. 447), which is already in his latest manner. Far lovelier than his many large pudes is the tiny picture entitled

already in his latest manner. Far lovelier than his many large nudes is the tiny picture entitled "Baigneuse lisant" (No. 560), as fragrant and delicious in quality as his sunlit landscapes.

The real creator of impressionism is Claude Monet, and his evident derivation from Boudin and the Dutch painter Jongkind is illustrated in one of his earliest works, the large and rather sombre "View of Le Havre" (No. 543). The magic of pure colour revealed itself to him gradually—or perhaps it would be more correct to say that he only discovered the means of expressing it by degrees. Abandoning the scale of greyish tone values introduced by Corot, he began painting those visionary light effects in which he seems to transmute everyday scenes into rainbow-like colour harmonies of unforgettable beauty. The roseate spring scene, with blocks of ice melting in the water (No. 450) and the blue "Thames" (No. 455), with the sun shedding a pink radiance over the water, 455), with the sun shedding a pink radiance over the water, are pictures which no reproduction can do justice to—they must be seen to be believed. And be seen to be believed. And yet the effect has been achieved at a tremendous sacrifice. The expressive brush-stroke, so ably used by Monet in the "Havre Jetty" and in the "Portrait of a Lady" (No. 958), had to be abandoned. In order to preserve the freshness of the paint it is laid on with a loose, monotonous, sweeping stroke. Moreover, all the architectural construction of a landscape has vanished, shapes have been



DAUMIER: "DON QUICHOTTE ET SANCHO PANZA" From Mr. Samuel Courtauld's collection

disintegrated in the play of light. The painting of luminous, atmospheric effects could be carried no farther, and a reaction was bound to follow. The movement, which developed directly out of impressionism and is generally called neo-impressionism, appears, on the surface, to be a step farther in the same direction;



DEGAS: DURANTY, THE FRENCH CRITIC AND NOVELIST From Sir William Burrell's collection loaned to the Tate Gallery



SISLEY: "LE PONT DE MORET" From Mr. D. W. T. Cargill of Lanark



GAUGUIN: "TE RERIORA." From Mr. Samuel Courtauld's collection



CEZANNE: "LA MONTAGNE SAINTE VICTOIRE"
From Mrs. Samuel Courtauld

Seurat's invention of the division of colour, and his technique of placing small touches of pure colour on the canvas, allowing them to blend optically, is a more scientific system based on Monet's experiments; but Seurat is, in reality, an artist whose chief importance lies in his having reintroduced the art of composition. In "La Poudreuse" (No. 503) Seurat has created a delightfully "rococo" design, based on the rotund forms of his sitter, echoed in the curved legs of the table, and in the mirror. Seurat's landscape studies are equally interesting. The early "Baie de Grandchamp" (No. 553) is not yet entirely pointillist in technique, nor is it as luminous as "Le Port de Gravelines" (No. 559).

The tightening up of design, which had become too fluid in the hands of the impressionists, was mainly carried out by Cézanne, who definitely declared that he wanted to make out of impressionism something lasting, like out of impressionism something lasting, like the art of the museums. Already his earliest work in the Exhibition, the "Black Marble Clock" (No. 441), has the rectangular struc-ture and solidity which hark back to Le Nain and Chardin. The classical and monumental tendency in French art, which had manifested itself so splendidly in the art of Poussin, was to reassert itself once again. Cézanne's most beautiful pictures in the Exhibition are unitself so splendidly in the art of Poussin, was to reassert itself once again. Cézanne's most beautiful pictures in the Exhibition are undoubtedly his three landscapes, "Montagne Ste Victoire" (No. 457), "The Bridge" (No. 500) and that incomparable piece of colour, the "Lac d'Annecy" (No. 505), which shows that it is possible to retain all that the impressionists discovered about colour and yet build up the composition with the deliberation of a Poussin. But Cézanne does not follow of a Poussin. But Cézanne does not follow the classical tradition of Poussin without reserve. There is, both in the "Lac d'Annecy" and in the "Montagne Ste Victoire," a curious asymmetry of design, with a promi-nent tree trunk on the left, which could hardly have found its way into the European tradition of classical design without the inter-vention of the Far East. Indeed, the assimilavention of the Par East. Indeed, the assimila-tion of other than European artistic traditions is one of the most remarkable aspects of the modern French movement. No one played a more important part in this respect than Gauguin. He first discovered the most primitive art in his own country, among the primitive art in his own country, among the peasants of Brittany; he then went to the South Seas and found among the golden skinned natives of Tahiti, and the exotic landscape in which they lived, the inspiration he needed to paint simple decorative designs, with broad passages of intensely rich colour. This broad passages of intensely rich colour. This return to pure colour, unaffected by luminous return to pure colour, unaffected by luminous reflections, is another aspect of the reaction against impressionism. Gauguin was deeply versed in the legends and magical beliefs of the Tahitans, having lived among them for years as one of themselves, and these are reflected in some of his compositions. In "Contes Barbares," a grotesque, gnome-like figure hovers in the background of two lovers; in "L'Esprit Veille," the spirit of the dead, the constant dread of the Tahitans, rises in the background out of the purple shades of night to terrify the girl lying on her bed with night to terrify the girl lying on her bed with averted face. These emotions are evoked less averted face. These emotions are evoked less by the legendary content of the pictures than by the symbolical use Gauguin makes of colour, by the symbolical use Gauguin makes of colour, purples and blues suggesting the mysteries of the unseen, golden yellows and reds the glow of the tropical sun, while the pareo, the patterned cloth worn by the Tahitans, is invaluable as a decorative motif in nearly all his pictures. Even when he concentrates on pure landscape, as in the glorious "Paysage Exotique" (No. 521), with its small patch of deep blue sea in the distance, the treatment is decorative. Familiarity with primitive sculpture led Gauguin to create forms of archaic purity like the "Three Tahitans" (No. 518), and their breadth and simplicity remain unaltered their breadth and simplicity remain unaltered even in the most splendid decorative setting, as in the "Tahitan Madonna" (No. 540). With this magnificent achievement the

With this magnificent achievement the Exhibition brings the evolution of French art to a close; but the vitality of the last phase clearly indicates that it is by no means the end of a great tradition, and more recent developments may be studied in the concurrent exhibitions of twentieth century French art at the Lefèvre Gallery and at the Leicester Galleries.

M. Chamot.

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This picture is in fine condition and is typical of this artist's work.

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(Two minutes from Christie's



THE **EVOLUTION** OF THE **SPORTS** CAR

ROM time to time the more gloomy members of the motor trade predict the doom of the sports car, which prediction is invariably followed by an increase in demand for this type of vehicle.

The normal car manufacturer is not fond of the sports car, as not only does it interfere with his ordinary production, but, in addition, very much more care has to be taken in turning out sports cars as opposed to ordinary ones, while the servicing is apt to be very much more expensive.

There is no doubt, however, that there is always a strong demand for this type of

car, which does not grow any less with the years. There are the young people of both sexes who find this type of car irresistibly appealing, while in addition there is always steady demand for something different by a certain type of older driver who wants

a car out of the ordinary rut.

Cars to-day are tending to become more and more alike, and this reason alone more and more alike, and this reason alone is sufficient to make the sports car increasingly popular. Women, too, have taken to the modern type of small sports car. In the past the sporting vehicle was inclined to be heavy to control; but with the advent of the little car this is no longer the case, and the sports car is, if anything, easier to control than the standard model.

The history of the sports car is particularly interesting. It has, of course, been evolved from the racing car, and the two are always becoming merged. Most of the racing cars of to-day are just "hotted up" sports models.

'sports models.

It was just after the War that racing for sports cars became so popular that it gradually displaced the racing for racing cars pure and simple. The Le Mans twenty-four hours endurance race was the pioneer event of this type.

Of course, there were sports cars years before the War. One of the most

famous produced in this country was the 30-98 Vauxhall, which was undoubtedly one of the fastest cars of its time. Another

one of the fastest cars of its time. Another interesting car of the sports type was the Alphonso model Hispano-Suiza.

This had an enormous stroke and very small bore, with huge valves at the sides of the cylinders placed opposite each other. It was one of the most delightful cars to handle and could still give a good account of itself under modern conditions.

Another early sports care was the

account of itself under modern conditions.

Another early sports car was the
Austro-Damiler; and, of course, there were
various Mercédès models, many of which
are still giving good service to-day.

There is no doubt that the building
of sports cars tends to improve the breed.

Mount his cars discovered when it becomes

Many things are discovered when it becomes necessary to get those few more miles an hour which were not suspected before. It is only recently, and as the result of racing and sports car work, that real attention is being given to what actually happens inside the cylinder of an internal combustion

Photography has come to the rescue in this respect, and all sorts of interesting things have been discovered which were not even suspected before. By photographing actual explosions in closed cylinders much data has been amassed. It has even been found that noise will have an effect on detonation, and that a silent machine more efficient than a noisy one in this respect

respect.

While on the subject of the sports car it is, of course, necessary to consider that most important adjunct to speed, the supercharger. At one time it was maintained that the supercharger would never invade the ordinary car field with any chance of success, but there is no doubt that it is gradually encroaching on the ordinary private car field.

Many people have a very confused

Many people have a very confused idea of what a supercharger is. I have

even come across an individual who had the impression that it was fitted with a supercharger when it had only a perfectly normal and ordinary down-draught carburatter.

Supercharging is only forced induction—that is to say, forcing the gases into the cylinders instead of allowing them to be sucked in by the engine. The result, of sucked in by the engine. The result, of course, is to get very much more mixture into the cylinders, especially at high engine

speeds, and to increase the power of the average engine by about a third.

In some cases the supercharger sucks the mixture from the carburettor or carburettors and forces it into the cylinders; while in others—notably the Mercédès—air is forced by the blower through the carburettors and so to the engine

air is forced by the blower through the carburettors and so to the engine.

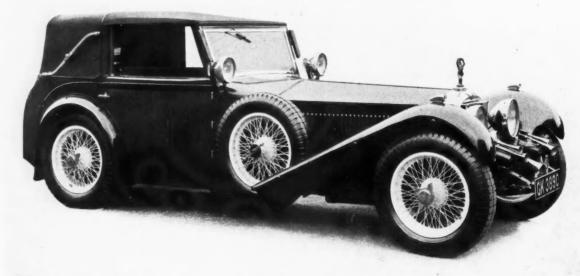
Certain great figures in the motor industry have been connected with the development of the sports car. In this country we have Mr. W. O. Bentley, designer of the famous cars which bear his name. More lately there has been Mr. Cecil Kimber of the M.G. Car Company, who may be said to be the king of the baby

sports cars.

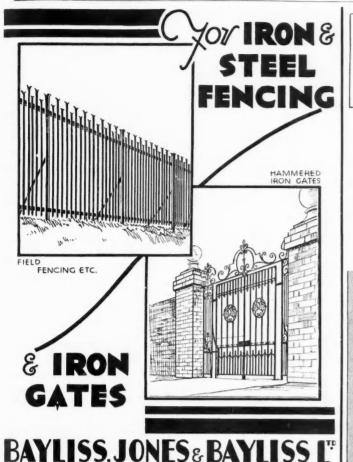
His M.G. Midgets have become deservedly famous owing to colossal speeds which they reached. For the coming season there will be a team of little six-cylinder cars under 1,100 c.c. capacity which should be extremely fast.

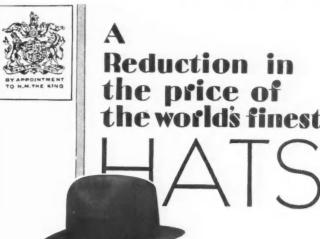
The culminating triumph of the M.G. Company was reached just before Christmas, when Mr. G. E. T. Eyston broke all H Class records on the Monthéry track in France. He succeeded in raising both the five mile and five kilometre records up to over 144 mp.h. over 114 m.p.h.

One must not forget, in addition, the successful efforts of the Austin Company to get colossal speeds out of the wonderful little Seven.



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ACROSS.

- A gambler not so common nowadays.
- 4. Both parts of this flower were probably met with a month ago.
- 9. Bait suitable for its start perhaps.
 10. Headgear for the more or less exalted. 11. Tennyson's Lilian was partly this.
- 12. Blows that may be worn.
- 13. Many a modern bride refuses to promise to.
- 16. A neck but not human or animal.
- 17. Opposes.
 19. A book of the Old Testa-
- ment.

 22. The most athletic one at the London "Zoo" died re-
- cently.

 24. The close of a Christmas
- 24. The close of a Christmas entertainment.
 25. A decisive battle of the nineteenth century.
 26. Leave fifty out of a famous shield and you may hear it

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 104

A prize of books of the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 104, Country Life, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, January 28th, 1932.

> The winner of Crossword No. 102 is-Mrs. Jobling, St. Stephen's Manor, Cheltenham.

29. Is this dance as popular

- as ever?
 30. A politician would not call this the safest of seats.
- 31. He is often to be met at Olympia. 32. A river of England.

DOWN.

- DOWN.

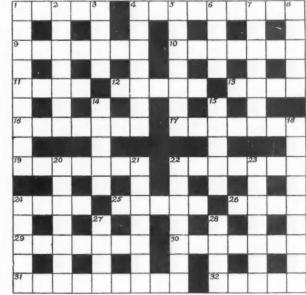
 1. A kind of dog.
 2. A very modern entertainment.
 3. Not a man to trust.
 4. Sweetmeats you can't rely
- on. 5. Most useful when on strike.
- 6. A city of England.
 7. Vehicle that should hold all
- the party.

 8. The girl card players love.

- 14. An Eastern ruler.
 15. This Browning was a don.
 18. The feminine of a solar topee perhaps.
- 20. This animal finished as an insect.21. Cook can begin in the end.22. The clue for 3 will serve

- here.
 23. Gradient.
 24. High clerical headgear.
 27. The end of a cigarette.
 28. You would hardly call 23 this.

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 104.



Address

AVIATION NOTES

By MAJOR OLIVER STEWART

ACK of purpose is the feature of the King's Cup air race which prevents it, year after year, from becoming a first-class event. Compared with a first-class event. Compared with the Schneider Trophy race, com-pared even with the Royal Air Force Display, the King's Cup meeting seems parochial. And this year the preliminary announcement that has just been issued by the Aero Club leaves little room for hoping that the race will assume a greater

Briefly, the course will be about 1,250 miles long and will be flown on two days. British machines and British pilots will be eligible and, although there is no rule against slow machines, the handicappers will work to a minimum of 110 miles an hour, so that any machine slower than this will be penalised. On the second day only fifty competitors—the first fifty in the race at the end of the first day—will be allowed

to start.

These regulations may make a good indeed the enthusiasm These regulations may make a good sporting event—indeed, the enthusiasm with which pilots support the race for the King's Cup ensures that—but they lack directive purpose. They lack that definition which makes a first-class contest. Speed became the purpose of the Schneider Trophy race and lifted it to the greatest heights ever attained by an air race. So far, there has been no comparable outstanding feature in the King's Cup race.

PRIMARY NEEDS

The King's Cup race could be made to serve private flying by influencing progress and diverting it into useful channels. For example, there is speed range—perhaps the most important attribute of any aeroplane designed to be used by amateur pilots in this country. Then there is the skill of the pilots in flying across country. Every possible encouragement is required to induce pilots to improve

their cross-country flying technique. But, so far, the King's Cup race organisers have overlooked these needs, and the race has become nothing more than a device for amusing the pilots and the crowd. It is right that it should possess spectacular interest, but not to the exclusion of practical

Perhaps it is not too much to hope that the Aero Club Committee will one day realise that, in the King's Cup race, it has a powerful instrument for influencing and encouraging progress, especially among the smaller types of civil aeroplane. But the preliminary announcement this year does not minister to that hope.

BLIND FLYING

The presentation of a trophy for the year's best performance in blind flying was an admirable idea, and has just been carried out for the first time by Air Service Training, Limited, with the co-operation of Gale and Polden. The winner is Mr. Oscar Garden, who was one of the first pilots to complete a solo flight from England to Australia. to Australia.

to Australia.

Second was Mr. F. D. Bradbrooke, and third Lady Bailey. The marks were awarded on tests in straight and level flying, climbing, gliding, turns with and without engine, taking off, spinning, recovering from awkward positions created by the instructor, and triangular cross-country flights. The final test consisted of a triangular cross-country flight of seventy miles entirely by calculation.

The pupil was covered with the hood

The pupil was covered with the hood which blots out his view of everything except his instrument board, and the machine was placed facing into wind on the aerodrome. The pupil then took off, gained height, assumed his first compass course, and was relieved only when he course, and was relieved only when he indicated that he thought he was back over his destination. The instructor in the front cockpit traced the actual course flown on the map.

DOG DAYS

T is, if one is practising economies, wise to cut the shooting season off with the Old Year. One may have a few very small days more, perhaps, for the younger generation home for the holidays than anything else; or one can have a vigorous drive at the old cocks. But there is nothing else, for partridges are best spared after Christmas, woodcock pass so early that it is unfair to shoot them after the New Year, and it is too much to hope that anything except a singularly fortunate shoot will hold enough duck or snipe to make more than an odd hour's entertainment.

odd hour's entertainment.
One must be philosophical about it. There is not a great deal left to shoot if we consider purely formal shooting; but if one likes to potter about as executive attendant to a useful dog, one may enjoy quite a lot of good sport. It is, however, indispensable that the dog should be useful in the way of finding game, and not solely concerned in retrieving it for you, and it is in the nature of things that this kind of dog attaches rather more importance to rabbits than

There is another condition one should set to a dog day, and that is to score it according to what you see instead of solely by what you see instead of solely by what you bag. This enormously increases the scope of the day and its enjoyment, for it allows you to extend into new fields which one could hardly enter even in the various column of the most broad-minded game book, though doubtless your dog friend ranks them highly in

If you take a gun and no dog, you will, at this time of the year, meet very little. If you take the dog, his activities will un-doubtedly deprive you of shots you imagine you might have got had you been without his com-pany. He inevitably flushes a rabbit, and you fire. Two wholly unanticipated teal rise within easy shot from the stream—still, on the whole, it is the dog which really fills the larder; but some of his disclosures, such as the fat dormouse rolled out from a drift of dead leaves between two logs, are not essentially game, although wholly delightful and enchanting discoveries

One of the mysteries associated with dog days is the incredible age and consequent toughness of any cock pheasant roused from the thicket. They are never under two or three years old-often, I fancy,

very much older. The probable explanation is that the young ones run at the first hint of disturbance, and these old birds, having spent seasons defeating beaters by not moving, just squat. No mere beating would move them, but a bustling dog is

another matter.

Their age is a drawback if they are wanted for anything like timely consumption; but it does not really matter how old a bird is, provided you hang it long enough. Even the oldest gets tender in time, but it requires faith and experi-

ence not to under-estimate the

The bulk of your bag will be rabbits, and, as they are depressing things to carry in quantity, an assistant is useful. On the other hand, they should be shot, for the rabbit begins to increase in logarithmic pro-gression from the middle of February onwards. This year they are not too plentiful in most places, for the rainy summer drowned the young litters in the stops.

absence of You An apparent absence of rabbits is purely illusory. You may imagine yourself fairly free of the little pests, but by midsummer you will be heartily convinced of the unreason of

Winter conditions are not favourable to getting within range of either jays or magpies, but you will probably see enough of them to suggest the wisdom of marking and shooting out the nests later in the year. With the woodland under bare poles, one can see nests and squirrel dreys which eluded one when the full leaf was out. It is good practice to mark such trees on the north side, as the desirable site will probably be tenanted again later in the year Marking trees is not so easy, but most country ironmongers stock a big pocket knife which includes the curious tool needed for the purpose.



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CHARM CHELTENHAM THE OF

MONG the many watering places in this country which are taking full advantage of the determination of most of us to "Buy British" and to pass the winter at home, Cheltenham is undoubtedly one of the most attractive. The gateway to the Cotswolds, attractive. The gateway to the Cotswolds, as it has been called, this debonair town, which has a reputation for prolonging life, looks westward and southward across the fertile Severn and receives the full benefit of the soft, health-giving breezes that sweep up the Bristol Channel. To the north and up the Bristol Channel. To the north and east the hills raise a protecting rampart and ward off the harsh winds of winter and early spring. Some of Cheltenham's pleasant suburbs occupy considerably higher ground and have, in consequence, a more bracing climate, while one has only to ascend the hills behind to get at once into a really tonic air. It is a sunny town, rejoicing in more hours of bright sunshine than fall to the lot of many other resorts. The average rainfall is low: there is a The average rainfall is low; there is a marked freedom from fogs, and a complete absence of extreme heat or cold; and the atmosphere, entirely unsullied by factory smoke, always remains refreshingly clear and pure.

A REGENCY SPA
Although, nowadays, Cheltenham is better known, perhaps, as a residential and educational centre, it must not be forgotten that it has long been famous for forgotten that it has long been famous for its waters, which closely resemble those of Carlsbad and Marienbad. The Cheltenham water, known as the "twin salt saline," was discovered over two centuries ago, and about a hundred years later three other sources were brought to light, and are now known as the Lansdowne, Pittville and Chadnor waters. These springs have long been proved efficacious in cases of internal disorders, among them being gout, which, disorders, among them being gout, which, though more popular in the days of three-bottle men, undoubtedly still exists, and he town has fully earned its motto, Salubritas et eruditio."

The old custom by which the taking of waters became a social fashion and which gave Bath so great a vogue in the eighteenth century had a similar result at Cheltenham

at the beginning of the nineteenth century, at the beginning of the fineteenth century, to the first four decades of which most of the architecture of the town belongs. The oldest of its many spas is the Montpellier, with its Colonnade and Rotunda, designed by Papworth, an architect, who found his great opportunity in Cheltenham. The Imperial Spa originally stood at the end of the Promenade on the site now occupied by the Queen's Hotel. It was moved in 1836 and is now divided into shops, and 1836 and is now divided into shops, and its interior has been considerably altered. By far the most important, architecturally speaking, of the old pump rooms, is the Pittville Spa, modelled on the design of a small Greek temple which formerly stood on the banks of the Ilissus at Athens. Writing in this paper in January, 1926, Lord Gerald Wellesley pointed out that "the general effect of the Pittville Pump is extremely good. The proportions of the rooms are excellent and all detail is most carefully studied and refined." Apart from its architectural charms, Cheltenham owes much to its magnificent tree-lined streets, the chief of which is known as the Promenthe chief of which is known as the Promen-ade. With its fine chestnuts, its broad pavements and the dignified terrace which pavements and the dignified terrace which forms one of its sides, it has a quality unique in this country, and reminds one of the boulevards of a Continental town. Cheltenham is also rich in gardens and public parks, among them being Pittville Park, which forms part of a beautiful estate of some fifteen acres, with a large lake, widespreading lawns and beautifully maintained flower beds. flower beds.

FOUR NOBLE CATHEDRALS

FOUR NOBLE CATHEDRALS

Apart from its own peculiar charms,
Cheltenham is a most convenient centre
for visiting some of the most interesting
country in the land. Within easy reach by
car are four of England's most beautiful
cathedrals. Of these Gloucester has been
called the "birthplace of the Perpendicular
style." The east window contains one of
the largest expanses of old painted glass
in existence, and the cloisters, with their
exquisite fan vaulting, are among the finest
in the country. Worcester, a historic old in the country. Worcester, a historic old town on the Severn, contains another cathedral which belongs chiefly to the

thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, though parts of it are Norman. The great feature of its interior is the grandeur of its groined or its interior is the grandeur of its groined roof, sweeping away for a distance of 38oft. in an unbroken line. Another city of great antiquity is Hereford, on the left bank of the beautiful Wye. The cathedral, although small in comparison with many others, is interesting as an illustration of many different styles, which are seen at their best. ent styles, which are seen at their best. Yet another famous cathedral easily accessible from Cheltenham is that at Oxford, which also serves as the chapel for the college of Christ Church. It was mainly built in the second half of the twelfth century. The best features of the interior are the east window, the Lady Chapel and the roof of the choir. Other notable sights within easy reach of Cheltenham are Tintern Abbey, one of the most romantic ruins in the country; Blenheim Palace, the seat of the Duke of Marlborough; Stratford-on-Avon; and Tewkesbury, an old-world town at the confluence of the Severn and Avon. Yet another famous cathedral easily access

TRAVEL NOTES

BETWEEN Cheltenham and Paddington there is a choice of two routes—by Swindon or Oxford. Several trains complete the journey in under three hours.

in under three hours.

The town is a good hunting centre, being within easy reach of several meets of the North Cotswold, Vale of White Horse, Duke of Beaufort's, Berkeley, Croome and Ledbury

Cotswold, Vale of White Horse, Duke of Beaufort's, Berkeley, Croome and Ledbury Hunts.

There are two very good golf courses one on the breezy plateau of Cleeve Hill, which, owing to the nature of the soil, is playable almost immediately after rain. The other links is the eighteen-hole course of the Lilley Brook Club, with nine holes on the level and the other nine on the shoulder of Hartley Hill

Hill.

The Cheltenham racecourse grows in popularity every season, and is justly called the "Ascot of the jumping season." The National Hunt Steeplechase is second only in importance to the Grand National.

There are orchestral concerts every morning, in addition to many other orchestral and vocal concerts. There are many balls during the winter, and a special feature is made of the municipal dance teas.





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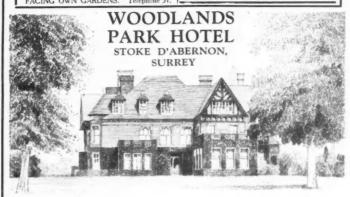
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ANNUALS FOR GREENHOUSE DECORATION

HERE is a tendency for the professional gardener as well as the more knowledgeable of amateurs to despise most plants of an annual persuasion, probably because their cultivation presents no particular difficulty. The keen gardener of to-day loves to be able to show his friends a good specimen of some variety of admittedly difficult culture; and, while there is much to be said for such enthusiasm when the plant is worth the trouble, the cultivation of the commoner things which go towards the making of a beautiful garden should never be lost sight of. Moreover, though easy to grow, annuals, both hardy and half-hardy, are by no means always well grown, and there are few gardeners who can point to a display of annuals equal in beauty or in quality of cultivation to those seen at Chelsea. When well grown, there are few plants to compare with them for richness of colouring, generosity of bloom and variety of form and texture; and in the greenhouse in late spring and early summer many of them, hardy as well as half-hardy, afford the most charming and attractive decorative effects, when consideration is paid to their grouping and arrangement.

That there is no lack of material to choose from is revealed by a glance through the pages of the new season's seed catalogues. There is a lengthy list, and the difficulty is not so much to find plants that are suitable as to know what varieties to eschew. In any collection. Phlox Drummondii should be accorded a place. It

That there is no lack of material to choose from is revealed by a glance through the pages of the new season's seed catalogues. There is a lengthy list, and the difficulty is not so much to find plants that are suitable as to know what varieties to eschew. In any collection, Phlox Drummondii should be accorded a place. It is a splendid annual that has been greatly improved in the last few years in its size of flower and range of colouring, and the modern varieties, all of which come true to colour from seed, are most charming when grown under glass. Varieties in shades of pink, scarlet, mauve and violet, as well as yellow and white, are now obtainable; but if there is only room for a few plants, then choice can fall on nothing better than such a charming variety as Pink Beauty, which makes a most delightful pot plant and very effective when massed on the greenhouse staging. From a sowing in the next week or two flowering plants will be had by June; but for a spring display, for which they are admirable, September sowing should be the rule.

For brilliance and luxuriance of colouring there are few annuals to compare with the modern strains of nemesias. Like the phlox, it is an annual that has undergone intensive development at the hands of the hybridiser in recent years, and the present-day varieties, smothered with dense clusters of large flowers, afford a gorgeous show in the greenhouse, where, by successional sowings, they can be had in bloom for many months of the year. A July sowing will provide plants in full flower through late December and January, while by sowing now flowering plants will be obtained by the middle of May or early June. There is a wide range of shades, from white and pale yellow through all tones of pink to rich orange scarlet and crimson; but the colourings are so refined that they blend remarkably well in a mixture. There are named varieties available for those who want them, of a more compact habit than the large-flowered strain, and well adapted for pot cultivation, and of these there is none better than Blue Gem, of a charming shade of forget-me-not blue.

For background effect on the greenhouse staging there are

For background effect on the greenhouse staging there are no annuals more suited than the salpiglossis. When sown in late August or September and given ordinary cool house treatment, they provide a charming display in May; while a later show can be had by sowing during next month, but the plants in late summer are scarcely so tall or so free in bloom as in the spring. They



THE ANNUAL PHLOX DRUMMONDII
This is one of the most charming of half-hardy annuals for greenhouse decoration

make fine ornamental pot plants; and the series of colourings, all of which are beautiful—although much varied in tinting from cream, golden yellow through shades of rose and crimson to violet blue and the richest purple—go well together. The large funnel-shaped flowers are beautifully marked with a richly coloured veining, and in many the throat affords a fine contrast in shade which still further enhances the beauty of the flower. The schizanthus, or butterfly flowers, are another charming group that can be treated in much the same way, sowing in August and inserting in a cold frame to secure really first-rate plants for May flowering, or in February for a later summer display. There are now some remarkably fine and richly coloured strains available, descended from the three species hybridus grandiflorus, Wisetonensis and retusus, and each will provide a most effective show. More recently a new pansy-flowered strain has been raised which makes a neat bushy plant smothered with large smooth-edged flowers resembling a pansy in shape, in rich self shades of pink, crimson and purple.

Although primarily grown for effect in beds and borders

Although primarily grown for effect in beds and borders outside, the Shirley poppies make excellent pot plants, and the strain with double and semi-double flowers in a mixture of art

semi-double flowers in a mixture of art shades affords a most attractive show. The sweet scabious is another annual that is as valuable for its effect in the greenhouse as in the open border. The colours embrace a wide range of refined shades, and a particularly fine variety is that called Coral Gem, which carries on its tall 3ft. stems large blooms of a soft pink which is remarkably effective under glass. For fragrance as well as colour there are few annuals to beat the mixed hybrids of Nicotiana affinis. They are remarkably free in flower, and if successional sowings are made, can be had in bloom over a long season. The mixture which embraces both pink and red shades, as well as white, will satisfy most tastes; but for those who wish separate shades there is the type species N. affinis, with large pure white and deliciously fragrant flowers and its rich scarlet and crimson forms.

Among other hardy annuals that can be used to advantage under glass, the godetias, particularly the tail double-flowered varieties, and clarkias are both excellent subjects, generous in bloom and rich and varied in colouring. The brilliant orange dimorphothecas, so effective when set in drifts in warm sunny borders outside, are equally showy and lavish in bloom when grown under glass. They never look better than when massed on the staging and used as a groundwork to that other charming



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A FINE BANK OF THE FEATHERY BLUE-FLOWERED ECHIUM PLANTAGINEUM

South African, heliophila with its graceful feathery habit and loose sprays of light blue flowers. The rich orange Ursinia anethoides, also of comparatively recent introduction, can be employed in a similar way and is equally luxuriant in its effect. In place of heliophila, the dimorphothecas, in lemon yellow as well as orange shades, may have the dainty Swan River daisy, Brachycome iberidifolia, as their companion. This is a lovely little hardy annual, well adapted for growing in pots by reason of its slender and graceful growth and its generous masses of daisy flowers that vary from the choicest pale blue through all gradations of mauve to a rich blue purple. The beautiful Nemophila insignis is another blue-flowered annual that makes a first-rate greenhouse plant and is especially charming when associated with stocks as a groundwork. Although seldom seen, either outside or under glass, the recently introduced Echium plantagineum is a good hardy annual that is well worth growing as a pot plant and massed to form a decorative group. The type species has flowers of a rosy purple shade that is not unattractive, but more recently a pale blue form has been selected and fixed which will find greater favour among those who like pure tones.

Those who are looking for a decorative flowering plant to provide an autumn display in the cool greenhouse can do no better than choose the new cascade chrysanthemums that were introduced a year or two ago. They provide the most charming effects when grown in cascade form, a method of training we



Messra. Sutton and Sons

CASCADE CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN THE GREENHOUSE IN LATE AUTUMN

have learned from the Japanese, and for those who have the facilities it is the system to adopt. There is little difficulty attached to their cultivation and the method of training is not beyond the skill of the ordinary gardener. The main point is to reduce the plants to a single or, at the most, two leading shoots at an early stage and train these along a bamboo cane set at an angle of 45° in the pot and facing north. The leader is allowed to grow on, and to secure bushy growths at the base, all lateral shoots are stopped to about two or three leaves until flower buds appear, when the leading shoot will then be about six feet long and the stake can be removed. The plants should then be placed on a greenhouse shelf facing south and the leading shoots allowed to hang downwards, when they will carry a profusion of dainty single starry scented flowers in shades ranging from white and yellow through tones of pink to orange and bronze if a good seed mixture has been obtained. Experience has shown that it is best to sow early next month in an ordinary compost in boxes and pot on the plants when large enough, giving them the same treatment as ordinary single chrysanthemums, after which they can be placed outside and training commenced as soon as danger from frost is over and the full-sized plants removed to the greenhouse in late September for their floral display. Although most effective when grown in cascade form, they make beautiful bushy plants if left in their natural form grown without any training or stopping, and there is room for both types in the greenhouse from October until December. There is no doubt as to the virtues of this attractive race of alpine chrysanthemums. They are graceful in their growth habit, remarkably lavish in bloom, and afford a decorative display that is both novel and beautiful. And when such virtues are allied with ease in cultivation, the gardener will recognise their strong claim to a place in the greenhouse.

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THE LADIES' FIELD

The Day of the Blouse and Shirt

HE day of the blouse has returned. It reigns as triumphantly as it did in the 'nineties, and the temporary eclipse it suffered some years ago seems only to illustrate the well known proverb "Reculer pour mieux sauter." The older woman, as a rule, prefers the blouse which is worn over the skirt, but for a girl—and, indeed, for anyone with a reasonably slim figure—there is nothing so attractive and certainly nothing so smart as the "tuck in."

The authorities at Peter Robinson's, Oxford Street, W., have always had what might be termed a "golden hand" as regards their blouses and shirts, and the mothers and grandmothers of the present generation appreciated

regards their blouses and shirts, and the mothers and grandmothers of the present generation appreciated their skill and good taste as much as their children and grandchildren do to-day. The charming examples on this page show two distinct types, the plain shirt for tailor-made suits or for country wear, and the more elaborate kind which cover a number of different occasions.

occasions.

This latter, which is of soft creamy washing satin, and has been made in their own workrooms, is daintiness personified, being adorned with little sets of ladder tucks divided by stitchery, the collar and jabot having a waved and tucked edge, while all the seams are hemstitched. The shirt is made of Macclesfield washing silk in a lovely banana shade, which is set off by the black tie, and has the high turn-over collar which appears on so many of the new models and is of the kind which is ideal for sport, never dates, and wears for just as long as it is wanted. Both kinds are a standby in the wardrobe which we can none of us afford to ignore.

GREY AND BLACK

I am told, too, that some of the smartest women will wear grey furs with black coat-frocks this spring, and pale grey gloves; while their little black hats will have just a touch of grey or silver to correspond. This is always an attractive alliance, and if the hat is one of the new little "sailors"—which are really not sailors at all, for the simple reason that the brim is definitely cloche in form, although worn with an upward tilt on one side—it will certainly make a very chic walking toilette for sunny days. I am also informed on good

authority that the hat which is dark on one side and light on the other will have a distinct vogue again during the coming months, being curled well up on one side and down on the other, a rather trying type of headgear for the older woman, if the truth were told, unless worn with one of the tiny veils which are quite permissible and give the suggestion of a faint shadow over the eyes. Another type of spring hat is that which has a thick plait of straw all round the edge and fits closely on to the head like a turban. A straw in two colours will be very effective for this kind of headgear.



A DAINTY TUCKED BLOUSE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

From Peter Robinson's, Limited

As regards the question of buttons, the vagaries to which this item is subjected are well worth attention. One sees a little row of buttons on the basque of a short coat, arranged in a sharply slanting line, while they may be entirely missing from the upper part, the wide revers extending to the waist. Again, there may be one short rever on the coat and a row of three to five buttons at right angles to it, or, in the case of a woollen coat-frock, the buttons may appear on one side of the hip yoke and not on the other. Dresses with high necklines have often a row of buttons on the yoke below which the corsage is gathered as though the dressmaker had intended to design a gown of about the period of the 'eighties and had suddenly changed her mind. I have noticed, too, on one or two frocks, a return to the wide "Swiss" belt, as it used to be called, but whether the modern figure will lend itself as well to this item as the small hour-glass waist of a couple of generations ago used to do, is a question which I should be inclined to answer in the negative, as a belt of this kind rather emphasises the size of the waist than otherwise.

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the spa rooms, are from 15 guineas per week according to the room

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